FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 026 *7 February 1984*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Chile Hosts South Pacific Commission Meeting A 1
Colombia's Lloreda Arrives A 1
Lloreda Meets With Pinochet A 1

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin on UK Military Buildup in Falklands B 1
Editorial Analyzes Government's Falklands Stance [LA NACION 3 Feb] B 1
FRG Foreign Minister Genscher To Arrive 11 Feb B 2
Expulsion of Garcia Meza, Arce Gomez Ordered B 2
Police Search Underway B 3
Defense Minister Delegated New Authority B 4
New Chief of Military Household Appointed B 5

BOLIVIA

More Reports, Reactions to Work Stoppage C 1
Government Says Illegal C 1
Stoppage Partially Observed C 1

BRAZIL

Reportage on Secretary of State Shultz' Visit D 1
Received by Figueiredo D 1
Military-Industrial Pact Signed D 1
Further on Hijacking of Plane to Suriname, Cuba D 2
Spokesman Terms Case Closed [O GLOBO 5 Feb] D 2
Spokesman Clarifies Remarks [O GLOBO 6 Feb] D 3
Briefs: Protocol With Argentina Signed; FRG Nuclear Parts Arrive; Rare Earth Recovery Plant D 3

COLOMBIA

More on Betancur-Alfonsin Joint Declaration F 1
Alfonsin on Nicaraguan Postponement F 2

PARAGUAY

Colorado Bloc Reportedly Split Over MOPOCO Talks [ABC COLOR 3 Feb] H 1
Columnist Notes False Invocation of Democracy [ABC COLOR 1 Feb] H 1

PERU

Vice President on Student Trials, Elections J 1
Blasts at Explosives Factory Kill Eight J 1

URUGUAY

Labor Minister Bolentini Organizes New Party K 1
New 1st Army Division Commander Installed K 1
Police Detain High School Students, Teacher K 1
Interview With Communist Party Leader Arismendi K 1
[East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 4-5 Feb]

VENEZUELA

Joint Declaration Issued on Alfonsin's Visit L 1
Mexico's Sepulveda Comments on Visit, Departs L 4

MEXICO

Sepulveda Says Contadora To 'Latin Americanize' M 1
Opposition Parties Condemn Violence in Puebla [EXCELSIOR 1 Feb] M 1
PPS Leader Criticizes Church, Government [EXCELSIOR 22 Jan] M 2

PANAMA

Paredes Letter on Kissinger Commission Report N 1
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 5 Feb]
FRAMPO Supports Ardito Barletta Candidacy [CRITICA 6 Feb] N 3
PAPO, PDC Presidential Candidates [MATUTINO 6 Feb] N 4
PRT Vice Presidential Candidates [CRITICA 6 Feb] N 4
ALIPO To Become Independent Party [LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 6 Feb] N 4
YA Questions Government Promise of Neutrality [3 Feb] N 5

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Newspaper Editor Jailed for Critical Articles P 1

COSTA RICA

Monge Discusses Nicaraguan Refugee Situation P 1
Refinancing of Nicaraguan Debt Approved P 2
[LA REPUBLICA 1 Feb]

EL SALVADOR

PDC's Duarte Details Economic, Social Plan P 2
[EL MUNDO 2 Feb]
Carrillo Reported Chief of Chalatenango Garrison P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 3 Feb]
San Miguel Recruitment Ends; Males Reappear [EL MUNDO 1 Feb] P 3
Military Advances, Clashes With Guerrillas Noted P 4
Rebel Clinic Dismantled in Usulutan Department P 4
Guerrilla Attack on Guarnecia Reported P 5
FMLN Radio Alleges Honduran Army Killings [Farabundo Marti] P 5
FMLN Forces Clash With 3d Infantry Brigade [Venceremos] P 5
Power Outages Aimed Against 'Electoral Farce' P 6
[Farabundo Marti]
Salvadoran Women's Association Assembly Held P 6
[Farabundo Marti]

Venceremos Hits Army Advance in San Miguel P 6
Farabundo Marti Deplores Bombing of Civilians P 7

GUATEMALA

MLN Rejects Diplomatic Relations With Spain P 7

HONDURAS

Four U.S. Soldiers Killed in Helicopter Accident P 8
UN Ambassador Refutes Nicaraguan Charges P 8
Nicaraguan Fishermen Detained by Authorities [TIEMPO 2 Feb] P 9
Indian Group Vows 'Armed Struggle' Against Army P 10

NICARAGUA

Foreign Ministry Protests Second Honduran Raid P 10
Communique on Resumption of Electoral Process P 10
Draft Electoral Law To Be Presented Wednesday P 11
PSD Makes Declaration on Election Participation P 11
[LA PRENSA 31 Jan]
PCD's Guido Says Party Expulsion 'Illegal' P 12
Borge Speaks at Political Event in Bluefields [BARRICADA 30 Jan] P 13
Cordova Rivas Addresses Air Raids, Elections P 13
Communist Paper AVANCE To Appear in May P 15
Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives P 15
Bulgaria To Finance Microwave TV Project P 16
EPS Reports Killing 43 Contras in 4 Days P 17
ARDE Issues Military Report for January [Voice of Sandino] P 17
Sandinist Planes Reportedly Downed in Zelaya P 18
[Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO 2 Feb]
Briefs: Indian Parliament Visitor P 18

CUBA

Delegation to USSR Meets Soviet Culture Minister Q 1
USSR Minister of Trade Vashchenko Arrives Q 1
Delegates Arrive for WFDY, Youth Festival Q 1
Komsomol First Secretary Arrives Q 1
MPSP President in Prague for Peace Discussions Q 2
Vilma Espin To Head UN's Women's Conference Q 2
Commentary Views U.S. Plans in Central America Q 2
Honduran Planes Launch Two Attacks on Nicaragua Q 3
Port Area Hit Q 3
Protest Note Sent Q 4
UN Security Council Meets Q 4
Nicaragua Protests at UN Q 5
Nicaragua Suspends Electoral Bill Discussions Q 5
Nicaraguan Army Reports Action Near Bluefields Q 6
Cotton Pickers in Nicaragua Receive Raise Q 6
Salvadoran Army, Rebels Clash in Several Actions Q 6
'Welfare for Usulutan' Suspended Q 6
FMLN Occupies Guarnecia Q 7
FMLN 'Surprise Operation' Q 7
Honduran Incursion Into El Salvador Claimed Q 8
Statements on U.S. Bases in Honduras Cited Q 8
U.S. Helicopter Crashes in Honduras; 4 Die Q 8

CARIBBEAN

Shearer Off to Brussels for ACP-EEC Meeting S 1

GRENADA

Emmanuel Announces Elections in November S 1
Sir Eric Gairy Comments on Interim Government S 1

ST LUCIA

Compton on Proposed Regional Defense Force S 2

GUYANA

Minister Concerned About U.S. Troops in Grenada T 1
WPA Scores Call for Caribbean Regional Forces T 1

CHILE HOSTS SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION MEETING

PY022333 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Chilean, Ecuadoran, Colombian, and Peruvian foreign ministers will attend the second meeting of the permanent South Pacific Commission that will close on 10 February.

One of the topics to be discussed at the conference will be the new law of the sea, which recognizes the 200-mile territorial sea [zona economic exclusiva]. They will also discuss the El Nino phenomenon as well as alternatives for safeguarding the sea environment, particularly from nuclear contamination, oil, and industrial wastes.

Colombia's Lloreda Arrives

PY061221 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has arrived in Chile. The foreign minister of the Bogota government is the first foreign personality to arrive in the country to participate in the meeting of the South Pacific Commission. He was received at Pudahuel Airport by Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle. Peruvian Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb and Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez are expected in Chile on Wednesday.

Lloreda Meets With Pinochet

PY062000 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Excerpts] President Augusto Pinochet and Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo have discussed the need to join efforts to cope with the foreign debt. After a meeting with the president, the Colombian foreign minister disclosed that all the problems of the region were discussed, particularly the need to cope with the continent's foreign debt.

The Colombian foreign minister added that Latin American public and political issues were also discussed. He explained that the situation of former Chilean Congressman Anselmo Sule was not discussed despite the fact that six Latin American presidents, including the Colombian president, have asked Pinochet that this politician be allowed to return to Chile.

The Colombian foreign minister is making a 6-day visit to Chile to attend the second meeting of foreign ministers of the South Pacific Permanent Commission to be held 9-10 February in the Miramar Hotel of Vina del Mar.

ALFONSIN ON UK MILITARY BUILDUP IN FALKLANDS

PY061219 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Upon arriving in Argentina last night, President Raul Alfonsin appraised the results of his tour and warned that the British military presence in the Malvinas endangers peace in the Western world. Great Britain threatens to transform the South Atlantic into an Indian Ocean, he said.

Referring to contacts with Great Britain concerning the Malvinas, he said that we are convinced that we will enjoy the solidarity of our brother countries of the entire continent. The democracies of the world, Alfonsin said, will express their solidarity and will have an opportunity of learning of the position of the Argentine Government, which desires peace but which also wants its rights to the islands to be recognized at last.

The president referred to the Great Britain's fortification of the islands. He said that this is a danger not only to Argentina but to Latin America and even to world peace. It would mean that there will be danger in the South Atlantic, which might become another Indian Ocean.

In conclusion, the president again expressed his confidence that a diplomatic solution will be reached, both in the Malvinas conflict and in the border dispute with Chile.

EDITORIAL ANALYZES GOVERNMENT'S FALKLANDS STANCE

PY042000 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 3 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Argentine Proposal on the Malvinas"]

[Text] The position that the Argentine Government has just assumed publicly on the conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands, through an announcement made by the president of the nation at a press conference in Caracas where he went to attend the inauguration of President Jaime Lusinchi, demonstrates our country's decision to uphold its inalienable right to those territories. At the same time, that position is tantamount to a realistic acceptance of the situation that has been created, and the proposal that it contains should receive, one can expect, the attention due to a stand for peace and for a willingness to overcome present difficulties.

With good reason, the proposal notes that recent history has demonstrated how countries that were involved in serious confrontations could reformulate their relations on the basis of "a clearly defined desire for re-establishing peace." But it adds, with a praiseworthy sincerity, that the greatest difficulty so far has lain in the fact that it seemed impossible to find a way for overcoming the condition in which relations between Great Britain and Argentina were left after the 1982 confrontation.

So, Argentina is now willing to start talks with Great Britain through their respective UN missions in order to have a direct exchange of ideas without the need to first remove the obstacle of the suspension of diplomatic relations, an obstacle which can be overcome only after progress has been made in the talks.

Furthermore, the Argentine Government reiterates a position that has invariably been held in these columns: The only acceptable way to reach a solution on the Malvinas question is through peaceful negotiations at international forums, abiding by the spirit and letter of the UN Security Council resolutions, including Resolution 505, which was passed in April 1982 after the armed conflict had already broken out.

Great Britain has recently insisted that Argentina should begin by declaring a cessation of hostilities. The Argentine proposal states that lifting of the exclusion zone imposed by Great Britain and guaranteeing not to continue the fortification of the islands, with the consequent concentration of military power, will "obviously" represent de jure the cessation of hostilities. And the proposal expresses it in terms that are not detrimental to the dignity and honor of the two countries. A word of goodwill from Great Britain in that regard will now be sufficient to open negotiations, so that "the commercial, economic, and diplomatic consequences," as the Argentine proposal states, may follow.

Lastly, the proposal requests that the possibility of stationing UN peacekeeping contingents in the islands be studied, thus once again revealing Argentina's will to negotiate, and to divest itself of intransigent and intolerant attitudes.

Moreover, the time and site chosen by President Alfonsin to make the announcement must be noted. In this regard, one can say that, given the importance of the question, this announcement should have been made in our country. But the fact that it was made in Caracas, in front of major Latin American political personalities and at a time when a special climate prevails in the continent, has an undeniable political value, and gives the Malvinas conflict a character that transcends national interests. For this reason, the reference to UN peacekeeping contingents is likely to be taken up at the UN forum with particular interest by Latin American countries.

It was difficult, after the 1982 confrontation, to find a way to resume negotiations for Argentina and Great Britain to extricate themselves from a situation that is harmful not only to the two nations, but to the American Continent's and the West's cause as well. It is to be hoped, for these reasons, that the British Government will respond to the Argentine proposal in the same spirit.

FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER TO ARRIVE 11 FEB

PY061651 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will arrive in Buenos Aires on 11 February. He will be accompanied by his wife and an official delegation. They will stay in our country until 15 February.

EXPULSION OF GARCIA MEZA, ARCE GOMEZ ORDERED

PY070040 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2338 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (NA) -- The Interior Ministry has canceled the political asylum and temporary residence authorization granted to Bolivian citizens Luis Arce Gomez and Luis Garcia Meza Tejada and has ordered their detention and expulsion from the country in two separate resolutions released tonight.

In the case of Garcia Meza, the ministry says that "he is the type of person whose background leads us to believe that he will endanger security and public order." Regarding Arce Gomez, it says that his activities "are contrary to constitutional order."

Police Search Underway

PY070255 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0202 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (DYN) -- Police sources tonight said that the Foreign Division of the Federal Police has already begun the search for former Bolivian President Luis Garcia and his former Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez in order to expel them from the country in compliance with a government decree released today.

The sources said that in these cases the expelled persons can freely choose the country to which they want to go and that they are not sent back to their country if they do not want to go there. The sources added that the two former Bolivian officials have not yet been located.

DEFENSE MINISTER DELEGATED NEW AUTHORITY

PY070030 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1618 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (NA) -- The government has delegated new powers to the defense minister, among others that of appointing and reassigning high-ranking Armed Forces personnel, such as colonels or the equivalent.

The government's decision has been enacted through Decree No 436, which will remain in force until the regulations establishing Armed Forces jurisdiction in connection with appointments and assignments are approved.

The new decree empowers the defense minister to take disciplinary action, to order the retirement or compulsory discharge of officers, to call back into active duty or end the assignment of high-ranking officers, and to exercise the powers that were previously exercised jointly by the three commanders under the regulations of the Armed Forces courts of honor.

The whereas clauses of the decree state that "while the regulations establishing Armed Forces jurisdiction over appointments and assignments are not approved, it is appropriate to delegate the power to order appointments and assignments to the defense minister, and to empower the chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces to take those actions that are inherently essential for the normal functioning of the forces, without precluding the future enlargement of the scope of those powers."

According to Article 1 of the Decree 436, the defense minister shall be empowered:

"1) To order appointments and to reassign high-ranking Armed Forces personnel holding the rank of colonel or the equivalent.

"2) To exercise the disciplinary powers that Decree No 198/73 conferred upon him.

"3) To order the compulsory retirement or discharge of high-ranking personnel of the Armed Forces, the Border Police, the Argentine Port Authority, and the National Air Force Police.

"4) To call back into active duty or to order the end of the assignments of retired high-ranking officers, in keeping with Article 62 of Law No 19,101 on military personnel.

"5) To exercise, in matters dealing with military honor, the powers that were jointly exercised by the three commanders in chief under the regulations of the Armed Forces courts of honor (Decree No 1180/83). The defense minister shall also be empowered to approve the final resolutions passed by the courts of honor, in keeping with Article 501 of the courts of honor regulations.

"Article 2) The chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces are hereby empowered, in their own forces:

"1) To order the opening of pre-trial inquests, to approve the conclusion of the inquests, and to order the execution of the sentences issued by the military courts, in keeping with the terms of Articles 177, 331, 332, 468, and others dealing with the same matter in the military code.

"2) To issue resolutions on appealed decisions, exercising the disciplinary powers that the regulations of each branch of the Armed Forces had granted to the respective commander in chief.

"3) To provide information requested on state-owned property, in keeping with the respective regulations and exercising the powers that said regulations had granted to the commanders in chief.

"4) To exercise, in matters dealing with military honor, the powers that the regulations of the Armed Forces courts of honor granted to each commander in chief for matters involving their own forces, except for the approval of the final resolutions passed by the courts of honor, in keeping with paragraph 5 of Article 1 of this decree.

"5) To take legal action and to approve proceedings in keeping with the terms of Decrees No 411/80 and No 969/81.

"6) To promote low-ranking personnel, to order their discharge, or to call them back into active duty.

"7) To order appointments and to reassign low and high-ranking personnel up to the rank of lieutenant colonel or the equivalent.

"8) To have high-ranking retired personnel of his force subordinate to him in his capacity as chief of staff; retired personnel or personnel without assignment, with rank or seniority exceeding that of the officer heading the personnel department, shall also be subordinate to the chief of staff.

"9) To cancel, to approve, or to renew the contracts for the rendering of services signed by low and high-ranking personnel.

"10) To grant pensions to the relatives of deceased military officers, to make decisions involving cases of sickness or accidents, and to change the conditions for retirement or for granting pensions in their respective forces.

"11) To call back into active duty or to end the assignment of retired personnel up to the rank of lieutenant colonel or the equivalent, in keeping with Article 62 of Law No 19,101 for military personnel.

"12) To approve the voluntary retirement and discharge of low and high-ranking personnel, to grant leave, and to determine the action to be taken in connection with military status [situaciones de revista] regularization referred to in Article 38 of the military personnel law.

"13) To appoint civilian agents in their respective jurisdictions, to end their assignments, and to order their dismissal, except in the case of high-ranking civilian personnel.

"14) To grant the "special compensation," and the "overtime" compensation established by section D, paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 1 of the regulations for civilian personnel of the Armed Forces, and grant other compensations that may be ordered by the executive branch, provided they are applicable to civilian personnel in their respective jurisdictions, regardless of their military status [situacion de revista].

"15) To authorize the change of assignment of civilian agents within their jurisdictions.

"16) To make the decisions that might be necessary in connection with the situations foreseen in Article 24 of the regulations for the civilian personnel of the Armed Forces.

"Article 3. It is so ordered."

NEW CHIEF OF MILITARY HOUSEHOLD APPOINTED

PY062135 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1002 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (TELAM) -- The Executive Branch has appointed Colonel Juan Manuel Tito as the new chief of the Presidential Military Household. The decree, published in the official bulletin today, was signed by President Raul Alfonsin and Defense Minister Raul Borras. Colonel Jose Gonzalez Brear has been temporarily acting as chief of the military household.

MORE REPORTS, REACTIONS TO WORK STOPPAGE

Government Says Illegal

PY061806 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Labor Ministry has declared that the business sector's stoppage is illegal and has a totally antidemocratic and subversive character, and that it is, therefore, unacceptable to the general public. The following Labor Ministry declaration was read by Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena.

[Begin recording] In view of the position that the Confederation of Bolivian Private Businessmen has taken, the Labor and Labor Development Ministry has released the following communique: The attitude assumed by the Confederation of Bolivian Private Businessmen is aimed at putting pressure on the constitutional government to adopt economic measures that are contrary to the interests of the people. This attitude is part of a plan that is purely political in nature and that is in no way in accordance with the legal norms and the judicial order of the country. This stoppage decreed by big business is illegal, and the consequences resulting from it are, therefore, punishable according to the law. The payment of salaries to the workers of the companies and enterprises that observe this illegal stoppage is not a generous concession on the part of the employers; it is rather a right which is duly provided for in the General Labor Law.

The suspension of the activities of public services is prohibited by the law, and if the law is broken, punishments will be applied according to the legal rules in force. The artisans and small- and medium-size companies whose interests coincide with the aspirations of the nation and the people should not commit themselves to the destabilizing actions of the monopolistic and oligarchic big businesses. The normal performance of their activities is evidence that they side with democracy and the economic recovery of the country. The workers should go to their places of work, rejecting any acts of provocation that the right or the ultraleft may attempt. The activity of the public sector, both in the productive sector and in administrative and service sectors, will be carried out in an entirely normal way, under the guarantee of the constitutional and democratic government. [end recording] We repeat: The stoppage declared by the business sector is anticonstitutional and is based on antidemocratic criteria.

Stoppage Partially Observed

PY062115 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The members of the small industries and handicraft workshops have unanimously repudiated the destabilizing attitude adopted by the private businessmen of Bolivia. Thousands of workers from all areas of the industrial, commercial, and public services sectors were at their work sites as usual. The large factories closed their doors, but the small industries started the week with a normal workday and the small stores offered their goods for sale in the midst of a tense atmosphere created by the campaign launched by the Confederation of Private Businessmen of Bolivia.

According to information obtained in La Paz, through investigations carried out by journalists from all sectors of the media, the stoppage decreed by the Confederation of Private Businessmen was observed only in the large factories and banks belonging to transnational enterprises. The owners of those factories following the stoppage have adopted strict security measures preventing the workers from continuing to produce, which is necessary in view of the country's need to solve the problems stemming from the crisis it is enduring.

The Bolivian Electric Power Enterprise is continuing to supply electricity. The supply of potable water, telephone services, and public transport were also normal today.

We reiterate that the small workshops, fulfilling their duty to produce, started the week normally. Some sectors have reported the existence of police-type squads charged with enforcing the stoppage ordered by the Confederation of Private Businessmen.

The national media, in turn, is carrying out its task of reporting on the activities being carried out in public offices, labor organizations, the Congress, and political circles. The media employees, gathering in special commissions, have decided to keep the citizenry informed through a network of labor union radio stations as well as to publish a newspaper in view of the stoppage being observed by the private dailies.

The influential Catholic daily PRESENCIA, which has been distributed throughout the country, has officially disclosed its decision to continue to publish its normal issue every day of the week.

Information obtained in every neighborhood by Radio Illimani reporters points out that the workers of all factories appeared at their working sites.

In the large industrial sectors, where the businessmen adopted repressive measures, the workers calmly held coordination meetings. After the meetings, these labor organizations decided to hold rallies, which will be staged within the next few hours. Bank employees have adopted a similar attitude. However, the national private banks and the branches of foreign transnational enterprises have suspended their activities and sent special commissions to the small industries and workshops. In some cases these commissions have threatened to suspend financial operations and others, offering financial aid on special terms, have sought to convince the workers of these small industries established in this city to suspend their activities.

[La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 6 February 1984 carried a report from Trinidad reporting that "during a meeting held by the Beni Department radio and television workers on Sunday at 0900 it was decided, through a joint declaration, to intervene the Beni Department stations on Monday and Tuesday in order to carry on and guarantee the operation of the stations for the benefit of the majority of the district." The Beni radio and television workers have decided to reject and condemn the stoppage decreed by the private businessmen, because it represents a terrorist act and is unconstitutional.

All stores and supermarkets have opened today and the supply of staples, except for meat, has been normal. The stoppage was observed only in this city by the private banks, tourism agencies, and meat suppliers, the report concluded.]

REPORTAGE ON SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ' VISIT

Received by Figueiredo

PY070100 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Excerpt] At 1600 today, President Joao Figueiredo received U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Anthony Motley, the U.S. under secretary for Latin American affairs, and U.S. Ambassador Diego Asencio.

Minister Saraiva Guerreiro reported that bilateral issues and world issues of a very broad scope were addressed during the meeting. Saraiva Guerreiro said that the visit by the U.S. secretary of state was very positive for bilateral relations. The Brazilian foreign minister reported that world affairs were discussed during the meeting that he held with the U.S. delegation at Itamaraty this morning.

[Begin Saraiva recording] We reviewed world economic matters very briefly. We also discussed issues involving Latin America and other areas. We also discussed those bilateral issues over which we have disagreements. As I said, there are disagreements (?and there will always be disagreements) in one way or another. But the two sides are willing to address them from a rational standpoint and to search for solutions. [end recording]

The minister also reported that foreign indebtedness was also discussed, and that efforts were made to find mechanisms that could give a little more room to indebted countries.

Military-Industrial Pact Signed

PY070115 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Brazil and the United States have just signed a memorandum of understanding for military-industrial cooperation. According to the memorandum signed today, the cooperation programs will have to take into consideration the military requirements and objectives of each government, the effective and rational investment of resources, and the improvement of armed forces capabilities.

The memorandum also establishes that the security of classified military-industrial information will be subject to security agreements to be negotiated between the two governments.

Until those security agreements are signed, the transfer of items, plans, specifications, technical data, and other information will be made through government channels, with the responsibility of providing security guarantees equivalent to those enforced by the supplier government falling upon the recipient government.

In the industrial area, the memorandum states that each government will be informed of the capacity for cooperation and the provisions necessary for the participation of industries in each country.

Each government will be responsible for informing the country's industry about this cooperation, as well as about the transfer and use of technical information, as well as for safeguarding classified military-industrial information.

The memorandum will be in force for 5 years, and it can be extended for successive 5-year periods upon understandings between the two governments. It can also be canceled at any time by either government, which will accordingly inform the other through diplomatic channels. The cancellation will become effective 180 days after the date of notification.

The signing ceremony took place in Itamaraty, and it was attended by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

During the ceremony in which the cooperation agreements were signed, Minister Saraiva Guerreiro pointed out the level of relations reached between the two countries. According to the Brazilian foreign minister, the broad and complex relations based on cordiality and willingness to engage in dialogue have evolved to reach a well-balanced and mature level.

For Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, the visit of Secretary of State George Shultz at the closing of the activities of the joint working groups demonstrates the importance that the two governments attach to such groups.

As for the current economic crisis that currently hamstrings countries, mainly developing ones, Saraiva Guerreiro said that the two countries agreed that solutions have to be sought through strengthened international cooperation.

In the area of nuclear energy, Saraiva Guerreiro said three topics were examined: Brazilian-U.S. nuclear programs; pending questions and prospects for bilateral nuclear relations; and viewpoints on multilateral questions. According to the Brazilian foreign minister, problems regarding fuel for the Angra 1 nuclear reactor and utilization of U.S.-made fuel elements in the IPEN [Institute for Energy and Nuclear Research] research reactor were solved.

In the area of space cooperation, Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said that specific programs were chosen to increase bilateral cooperation in various aspects such as space science and personnel exchange.

Saraiva Guerreiro also revealed that the text of a new basic agreement on scientific and technological cooperation was negotiated to replace the old one signed in 1971. The new document will expand bilateral cooperation in several scientific and technological areas.

In closing, Saraiva Guerreiro affirmed that he has no doubt that the contacts through the working groups were fruitful, and that bilateral cooperation will benefit from the activities of those groups throughout 1983. Following the ceremony, Minister Saraiva Guerreiro treated his U.S. colleague to a luncheon at Itamaraty.

FURTHER ON HIJACKING OF PLANE TO SURINAME, CUBA

Spokesman Terms Case Closed

PY061358 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Feb 84 p 8

[Excerpt] In Brasilia, Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas has reported that the Brazilian Government regards the case of the hijacked airplane as closed, because the negotiations with the Cuban Government have been satisfactorily concluded.

Pericas added that the role played by the Swiss Embassy, which is representing Brazilian interests in Cuba, as well as that played by Surinamese authorities, proved to be decisive for the success of the negotiations.

Spokesman Clarifies Remarks

PY062345 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] Brasilia -- Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas yesterday said that the Brazilian Government will maintain contacts with Cuban officials, through the Swiss Embassy, to discuss the situation of the hijackers of the Varig Cruzeiro airbus who are being held in the city of Camaguey.

According to Pericas, everything will depend on what decision the Cuban authorities make. They could regard the hijackers as common criminals and expel them from the country. They could try and sentence them on hijacking charges. Or they could even deport them at the request of the Brazilian Government.

In any case, no decision has yet been made by the Brazilian authorities about submitting this type of request through the Swiss Embassy, which represents Brazilian interests in Havana.

Pericas said the case is still unclear because it is not known why the hijackers diverted the plane. He said: The only thing we know is that they wanted to go to Cuba, but there are certainly other ways to go to that country.

Pericas said he was misinterpreted when he said that the Brazilian Government considered the case closed. He said: I was referring to the current situation, that is, that arrangements had already been made for the return of the passengers from Suriname and of the crew members from Cuba. But we will obviously take steps to clear up the matter of the hijackers.

BRIEFS

PROTOCOL WITH ARGENTINA SIGNED -- Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro and Argentine Commerce Secretary Ricardo Campero today signed a letter of intent. Saraiva Guerreiro said that this document reflects a political decision by the new Argentine Government to maintain the [same] level of relations with Brazil. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 31 Jan 84 PY]

FRG NUCLEAR PARTS ARRIVE -- NUCLEBRAS President (Dario Gomes) watched today in Rio de Janeiro the unloading of heavy equipment for the Angra-2 and Angra-3 nuclear powerplants. This equipment arrived from the FRG. [Excerpt] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 31 Jan 84 PY]

RARE EARTH RECOVERY PLANT -- NUCLEBRAS and the company Vale do Rio Doce have signed an agreement for the construction of a plant for the recovery of rare earth from the concentration process of anatase. The plant will be set up next to the anatase concentration pilot plant located in Minas Gerais (Papira) District. [Text] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Feb 84 PY]

MORE ON BETANCUR-ALFONSIN JOINT DECLARATION

PY062320 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1832 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota, 5 Feb (DYN) -- Presidents Belisario Betancur of Colombia and Raul Alfonsin of Argentina today agreed on the need for Latin American disarmament agreement, including arms and troop limitations in the region. President Betancur committed himself to support the Argentine claim over the Malvinas Islands, and President Alfonsin pledged himself to support the actions of the Contadora Group in Central America.

Both presidents signed a joint declaration at the end of President Alfonsin's visit to Bogota. In the document, the two presidents advocated the democratization of the Latin American countries, noninterference in the affairs of other states, and reactivation of mechanisms for continental cooperation.

The two presidents asked for new economic actions to enable developing countries to pay their foreign debts. To that end, they emphasized the need for a frank dialogue with creditors to work out affordable debt payment terms. They coincided in their appraisal of current foreign debt terms as being detrimental to the development and "political stability" of Latin America.

The joint declaration expressed the support of both nations for the UN and OAS Charters, particularly in reference to the equality among states, the right to territorial integrity, the self-determination of people, and the respect of human rights and individual freedoms. The declaration also deplored the use of force for the solution of international conflicts, and advocated the negotiated solution of border disputes. In this regard, President Betancur expressed his satisfaction with the declaration of peace and friendship that was recently signed in Rome by the foreign ministers of Argentina and Chile, because it represents a positive step in the strengthening of relations between two fraternal countries. Betancur also expressed his country's support for Argentina's just claim over the Malvinas, Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands, deploring the maintenance of colonialism in Latin America. Betancur also stated his support for the UN and OAS resolutions on the Malvinas questions, and termed the British presence in those archipelagos as "a situation which affects the peace and security of the continent."

In another passage of the declaration, the Colombian president again supported the UN resolutions calling upon the two countries to start negotiations on the question, and deplored the fact that the requests of the UN secretary general have gone unattended, despite Argentina's stated willingness to start negotiations.

Both presidents condemned the arms race, "not only in the developed countries but also in the developing world, noting that it has reached worrisome proportions in Central America, where a concerted effort is necessary to explore all the avenues that may lead to effective and lasting solutions."

Both chiefs of state, after recognizing that the region's main problem lies in Central America, said that the solutions "should be found within the framework of self-determination (of the peoples of the region), without being tied to foreign strategic policies."

Therefore, President Alfonsin pledged "his broadest, total support to the work of the Contadora Group, considering that the solution for the Central American crisis calls for compliance with all the commitments written into the various documents which have been approved by the Central American countries. He also called on the American and European countries to help promote the region's economic and social growth.

The two presidents also singled out the democratic system as being the only vehicle for the expression of popular will, and expressed their wishes that the wave of democratization now moving Latin America "can spread throughout the continent." They noted the need for reinvigorating the inter-American system, and voiced support for the idea that Latin America must find a mechanism "to offer the world an example in the field of disarmament through a commitment to limit armaments and military forces." They agreed to foster "the Latin American pressure" in the Nonaligned Movement, and expressed their concurrence with the conclusions reached by the Latin American Economic Conference in the "Quito Declaration and Action Plan." They also praised the role of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

In the joint declaration, the two presidents spelled out their concern over "the increasing asymmetry in the distribution the cost of the international economic crisis," and stated that Latin America's foreign debt hinders the region's development possibilities, as well as affects its political stability. The declaration went on to state that "there is an urgent need for policies tailored to promoting a broad dialogue with creditor countries so as to bring about a substantial reformulation of economic criteria with which the foreign debt question is currently treated," as well as the analysis of the origin of and the responsibilities for the foreign debt situation.

In another passage, Alfonsin and Betancur underscored the need to strengthen cooperation between Argentina and the Andean Group, and to support multilateral agreements on basic products, "like sugar."

The two presidents lastly agreed to set up premanent mechanisms of consultation on the participation of the two governments in various international forums, especially in the Group of 77 and the Nonaligned Movement.

Alfonsin on Nicaraguan Postponement

PA052031 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1606 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota, 5 Feb (EFE) -- Today Argentine President Raul Alfonsin deplored the announcement made in the past few hours by the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua that it had indefinitely postponed the electoral process in that Central American country. "I regret very much the postponement of the Nicaraguan elections" the Argentine president said when asked his opinion during a news conference with national and foreign newsmen.

Report from Managua indicate that the postponement of the electoral process will last until the circumstances of their air raid staged by Honduran aircraft are clarified.

Alfonsin also insisted that Central America must solve its own problems without foreign intervention, and he positively underscored the efforts undertaken by the "Contadora Group" in the region.

COLORADO BLOC REPORTEDLY SPLIT OVER MOPOCO TALKS

PY061400 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Feb 84 p 8

[From the "Whispering" column]

[Text] An old political fox has reported that during the last meeting of the Colorado Party bloc in the Chamber of Deputies, the existence of two trends could be clearly noticed. On one hand, there are the "dialogists," who are not only endorsing a dialogue with MOPOCO [Popular Colorado Movement] members, but also a removal of the ban on the latter, once they meet some requirements. On the other hand, there are the "nondialogists," who are advocating a policy that is opposed to any change. For the time being, the "nondialogists" have the upper hand.

COLUMNIST NOTES FALSE INVOCATION OF DEMOCRACY

PY032036 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 11

["At Sundown" column by Fernando Cazenave: "In the Name of Democracy"]

[Text] After the lecture which -- wearing a blue tie -- the U.S. ambassador delivered at the headquarters of the Radical Liberal Party to a gathering of all political parties except the progovernment party and the Authentic Liberal Radical Party, even the most perfunctory local public statements are made in the name of democracy.

But in all truth, that does not happen only at home. Despite the very clear and concise statement of the democratic principles made by Mr Davis, democracy is mentioned in other speeches, lectures, and statements, but it is sometimes absent from life, reality, everyday acts, or moments of action.

At the same time that Lincoln's sacred pronouncement that democracy is the government "of the people, by the people, and for the people," some persons are deprived of freedom, or even on occasion of life, because they are a danger to democracy.

There are some cases in which freedom is not taken away. One is not deprived of freedom by merely being forced to sleep in a public jail, or a peoples' prison that, in any case, would be the same thing, because even those who are not in prison can be subjected to certain restrictions on their freedom of expression, which is guaranteed by the law. Their freedom of assembly, which is also guaranteed by another law, can also be subjected to restrictions. In effect, as only some groups are granted legal status, only the members of such groups acquire for some unknown reason the right to freedom of action and expression. All this is in the name of democracy.

An attempt is being made, in the name of democracy, to oust a democratically chosen government in the case of Bolivia and, also in the name of democracy, the United States shipped Marines to the south to take over a Caribbean island. The United States has explained that this action was taken for the sake of democracy and we are not going to question that, still less because it is a subject that has already been discussed extensively. The Soviets also took over Afghanistan in the name of democracy.

And we would go on talking about the different views of democracy, which is interpreted differently by every person, depending on the way each one looks at it, and the way each one handles it, so long as one does not contradict that holy and mystical way of permanently defending the sacred interests of the peoples of the world.

The Brazilians, for example, are currently discussing whether democracy is more feasible through direct presidential elections or through indirect elections in an electoral college already established and in which, as is public knowledge, the governing party has a majority.

Uruguay announces a return to democracy in 10 months time even though there are only three political parties legally authorized to take part in the elections, and the dialogue between these party leaders and government authorities is interrupted more often than an old film shown on television.

And we cannot forget Argentina, from which we hear the most horrifying stories. They started off by trying to combat sedition in the name of democracy, going about it properly in keeping with our Western life style, but it seems that they got carried away when they got down to the job. It is obviously not always convenient to play war-like games, and in their attempt to wipe out all the known rebels they decided to do away with the entire family in order not to leave any seeds that could sprout again in the future.

And now democracy has come to uncover all the excesses committed in the struggle against subversion that, seemingly, became much more fierce than subversion itself.

Thus, it seems abusive to talk about democracy. It is an abuse when the bad disguise themselves as the good and use the name, the principles, and the simple words of those who form part of the government of the peoples, by the people, and for the people to carry out the greatest abuses and the most outrageous actions.

Those of us who believe are sincere when we define democracy and we wonder whether the rest are ill-intentioned or whether they have a mistaken concept of democracy. Why, who does not cite it, to the north, south, east, and west?

VICE PRESIDENT ON STUDENT TRIALS, ELECTIONS

PY061619 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Second Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini today stated that the judiciary is generous. He made this statement when commenting on the case of the university students who were acquitted by the courts after being arrested during the recent student riots. In comments for our newscast, Alva Orlandini also spoke about the possible alliance between the Popular Action [AP] party and the Popular Christian Party [PPC].

[Begin recording] [Alva Orlandini] The judges have tried the accused, but they have been overly generous. Their violence led to obvious damage, which cannot be overlooked by the courts. The temporary detention took place in order to carry out an investigation. I am afraid that the students may do it again. An efforts must be made toward ending the violence. The judiciary is a branch of the state.

[Unidentified Reporter] Alan Garcia is virtually the candidate of APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] for the presidential elections. What do you think about this?

[Alva Orlandini] I believe that he is (?increasingly) representing the APRA. He is the APRA secretary general. He will run for the 1985 elections, and I think that he will lose. One cannot claim victory beforehand.

[Reporter] How do you view the AP-PPC alliance with a PPC candidate, that is, Dr Luis Bedoya?

[Alva Orlandini] Some talks were held at a high level concerning a possible AP-PPC alliance, but there is nothing concrete. What is essential is that the parties agree on a program to be developed by the government. Then one could think about a ticket. Of course, we think it should be a popular man.

[Reporter] It is being said that your personal wish is to prevent the PPC from gaining more leverage within the alliance.

[Alva Orlandini] Such statements are groundless. I have no presidential aspirations, so I am not standing in the way of an PA-PPC alliance.

[Reporter] Would you run for the AP?

[Alva Orlandini] The party will nominate its candidate in due time. [end recording]

BLASTS AT EXPLOSIVES FACTORY KILL EIGHT

PY070230 Paris AFP in Spanish 0111 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 6 Feb (AFP) -- It has been unofficially reported that at least eight persons died and two [as received] were injured by explosions which occurred today in an explosives factory located near the capital. Both government officials and businessmen have kept completedly silent about the consequences of the two explosions which occured in the Wicks and Explosives Factory (FAMESA), 20 km north of Lima. Interior Minister Luis Percovich has admitted that the explosions occurred and that three people [as received] were injured, but declined the give further details.

LABOR MINISTER BOLENTINI ORGANIZES NEW PARTY

PY070140 Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Labor Minister Nestor Bolentini will in the next few hours submit to the Electoral Court a request for the registration of his party, the Patriotic Union (Union Patriotica). Bolentini told Radio Carve that his party already has more than 8,000 members, that is, the 8,000 signatures required by the electoral organization and that he already has all the documents ready to put the new party into operation. As soon as the Electoral Court authorizes its functioning, Bolentini said, the Patriotic Union will promote dialogue as a way to achieve the goal of institutionalizing the country.

NEW 1ST ARMY DIVISION COMMANDER INSTALLED

PY070215 Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpt] In a ceremony at the Agraciada Avenue building, General Julio Cesar Bonelli has been sworn in as new commander of the 1st Army Division

POLICE DETAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, TEACHER

PY061341 Paris AFP in Spanish 0027 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Feb (AFP) -- The Social and Cultural Association of State Schools Students (ASCEEP) today reported the detention of eight students and a teacher by the police yesterday. The action was taken during a meeting at which the status of high-school education in the interior of Uruguay was being reviewed. According to an ASCEEP report, while some 60 students were meeting with a teacher at a downtown site, the police arrived and broke up the meeting, taking statements and pictures of all the participants. The police also took pictures of the site, seized identification papers, and detained nine persons, eight students and the teacher. After being held in detention for several hours, they were released. ASCEEP repudiated this new attack against the right of free assembly, which all citizens enjoy under the provisions of the Constitution.

INTERVIEW WITH COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ARISMENDI

AU062034 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 4-5 Feb 84 p 6

[Interview given by Rodney Arismendi, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uruguay, to NEUES DEUTSCHLAND -- date and place not given]

[Text] Question: There has been over a decade of violent struggle in your home country against the military dictatorship, Comrade Rodney Arismendi. This year it is said representatives of the regime have promised general elections in November to hand over power to a government elected by the people. How do you assess this offer?

Answer: The well-known promises do not at all mean that the date for the election has been finally fixed. Now, after the enormous general strike that took place recently as a sign of protest against the fascist regime, it has been indicated that the announcement may even be rescinded.

But I want to state with firm conviction that the people will defend this election date that they have wrung from the dictatorship under all circumstances against the resistance of the most reactionary wing of the Armed Forces. The attempts of the military regime to prolong its domination to all eternity and to break out of the secure encirclement by the people are built on sand.

Question: Thirteen years ago, on 4 February, the united front "Frente Amplio" (Broad Front) was founded. When you look back today and think of the militant actions against fascism and dictatorship in your country, what would you particularly stress?

Answer: Since 27 June 1973, the day of the coup, the democratic forces have granted not a single day of cease-fire to the military rulers. A general strike that started with the occupation of the enterprises and finally seized the entire country was the first response. It lasted for 15 days and culminated in a large demonstration that the dictatorship forcibly dissolved with tanks. But all opponents of the terrorist rule had to withdraw into deepest illegality. They paid a very high price in victims for their resistance. Thousands and thousands of Uruguayans were put in jail, tortured, murdered, or driven into exile.

Our party, the Communist Party of Uruguay [PCU], undisputedly formed the first line of resistance in this strong defensive phalanx. Thus we also had to pay the highest price in blood and victims. Thousands of patriots, sometimes up to 6,000 Communists alone, were tortured, disappeared without a trace, and were imprisoned for years. Many of them still are in the prisons of the dictatorship, among them such outstanding figures as General Liber Seregni, the president of the "Frente Amplio." At the same time I want to recall great personalities of our party who share the fate of Seregni: Jaime Perez, Jose Massera, Vladimir Turiansky, Rosario Pietrarroia, Jorge Mazarovich, Leon Lev...

When in November 1980 the dictatorship finally tried to obtain the apperance of legitimacy by a so-called people's referendum, the people resolutely said no. Thus resistance reached a higher level; in this action on the people's referendum the people finally got back their courage and strength. They understood their capacities in the struggle; they found broader paths of unity within the framework of the huge task of creating unity and convergence. A new phase started, which ended in 1982, in the so-called party elections to the leadership of three admitted parties -- Colorado, Blanco, and Civic Union -- with another defeat for the dictatorship. The political struggle continued to strengthen. Now not only the Communists and most progressive forces or certain parts of the workers class were in the struggle. The entire people, including the traditional parties to which the generals had allowed certain limited activities, demonstrated in the political arena energetic rejection of the regime.

Question: After the increase of the mass struggles in 1983 this development rapidly continued. What conclusions did the PCU draw from this development?

Answer: After the defeat of the dictatorship in the party elections, the Central Committee of our party decided that the objective and subjective conditions for the overthrow of the dictatorship, for finally smashing it, had developed. Not only the prerequisite for the overthrow was present, but also the political maturity for setting up a more progressive democracy than the one we had in 1973. The eventful year of 1983 confirmed our analysis. It was marked by a revival of the activities of the parties and political organizations as well as of their militant actions. The entire workers class again appeared cohesively in public.

After the enormous mass march on the occasion of 1 May 1983 in Montevideo, a demonstration of the power of the workers class, the students went out into the streets in June; in August the workers youth demonstration followed. In November 400,000 followers of the admitted and not admitted political parties rejected the plans of the dictatorship to create "a limited democracy." Thus no day passed in which the people had not offered resistance. And now, at the beginning of 1984, Uruguay lives in an atmosphere of general, mass protests.

Question: Your party very intensively worked on the assessment of the general strike at the beginning of this year. What is your evaluation?

Answer: The general strike was an enormous victory. It proved once again and with great effect that the people of Uruguay are prepared to mark an end to the dictatorship and that they want a democracy that has nothing to do with the old regime: No bans on parties, no bans on trade unions, away with the structures in the state apparatus enforced by fascism -- this is what the masses are now demanding. The general strike was excellent evidence of the fact that the workers class is not prepared to renounce its independent role. This independent role of the workers class is not in contrast with the cooperation of parties in the so-called coordination committee. The workers class with its independent demands took its place in the process.

Some representatives of the traditional political forces, which are also in opposition to the regime and are sitting together with us on the coordinating committee of the parties, criticized the general strike. That means that they considered it inappropriate at that time. Important sectors of the traditional parties, for instance the group "For the Home Country" of the Blanco Party, supported the general strike. Also forces around Ferreira Aldunate (renowned leader of the Blanco Party -- NEUES DEUTSCHLAND) and younger forces in the Blanco Party supported it.

Question: How important is the coordinating committee, which includes all legal and illegal political parties and many social organizations, including the workers and students movement?

Answer: Undoubtedly the coordinating committee is a main support of the general, mass protest. It provides a basis for national cooperation by all layers of the people. We expressly say that the coordination and cooperation of the parties is of the greatest importance for overthrowing the dictatorship. Our strategy has always been aimed at the cooperation of the parties and thus in this hour we want all forces to participate in the coordinating committee. Higher forms of struggle are necessary. For now, according to political circles, an overall national action is at stake. That means that all must strike or protest against the regime in some other form -- the entire country, without exception. This idea of a great decisive struggle of the nation seems to be the means to overthrow the regime if it does not give up by itself. Plans of the dictatorship to stay in power forever must be foiled.

Question: At the recently ended meeting of the PCU Central Committee, the strategy of the people's struggle was universally analyzed. What is of particular importance?

Answer: One must certainly not believe that the present development in Uruguay follows a straight line. The fascist forces, the most reactionary wing of the Armed Forces, the most aggressive forces and the forces allied with the Pentagon and the CIA want to slow down the replacement process, to keep the changes under their control in order to save the old structures of fascism. They have realized that they cannot withstand a radical explosion.

Question: In the Uruguayan people's struggle against the terrorist rule, the Communist Party plays an important role. How do you see your mission?

Answer: Our party is a force that is deeply rooted in the workers class and among the intelligentsia. It has had to stand many tests and it has stood them all honorably, firmly united around our slogan "A Uniform Party in Prison, in Illegality, and in Exile." We do not stand in these struggles as a commentator on the fringe of the events but as a vanguard, as a fighter in the foremost line in the struggles of the workers class, our people. We think that we have won in moral authority and also in political esteem. Undoubtedly, we will emerge from illegality and exile in the present struggle as a strong party and will in the future have an important role in national policy as a force deeply rooted in the people.

At the same time this increased strength means the highest recognition for our martyrs, for our comrades who were tortured to death and for those who died in exile without having seen their home country again after years of illegal struggle. In this hour it is a matter close to the heart of our party to say thanks for the great international solidarity granted to us, and I want to use the opportunity to gratefully greet all our comrades and friends in the GDR.

JOINT DECLARATION ISSUED ON ALFONSIN'S VISIT

PY061117 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2041 GMT 4 Feb 84

[By NA special correspondent]

[Text] Caracas, 4 Feb (NA) -- Presidents Raul Alfonsin and Jaime Lusinchi today agreed on the need to strengthen democracy in Latin America, voiced support for the sovereignty and self-determination of all peoples, endorsed the principles of nonintervention and peaceful solution of all controversies, and expressed their firm support for the proposals of the Contadora Group to bring peace to the Central American region.

In a joint declaration signed at noon today, the two presidents also stated that "the serious human rights violations are a shameful chapter in the history of the region," and committed themselves to guaranteeing these rights.

Regarding the issue of the foreign debt, they proposed that "it be discussed with developed countries within a broad political framework which would include the responsibility developed countries have had in causing these debts and which would take into account the negative political consequences stemming from this issue."

"The Venezuelan president expressed his satisfaction over the decision of the Argentine Government to seek a solution to the conflicts involving the Malvinas, Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands and to regain sovereignty over these islands through peaceful means," the declaration says.

The declaration was signed at the end of the 4-day visit Alfonsin made to Venezuela to attend Lusinchi's inauguration. During the visit, Alfonsin held important meetings with presidents and officials of American countries.

The signing ceremony took place at Miraflores Palace at the end of a luncheon at which Alfonsin decorated Lusinchi with the Order of San Martin the Liberator. Immediately after the signing ceremony, the Argentine delegation left for Bogota, where Alfonsin will meet with President Belisario Betancur before returning to Argentine tomorrow afternoon.

The declaration also states that Lusinchi accepted Alfonsin's invitation to visit Argentina, but it does not state when the visit will take place. The following is the text of the document signed by the two presidents:

"On the occasion of the official visit made to Venezuela by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin to honor with his presence the Venezuelan presidential inauguration the illustrious visitor and Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, accompanied by their distinguished entourage, held frank and cordial talks on various issues of interest to both countries.

"Upon reviewing the current international juncture, they carefully examined the political and socioeconomic situation in Latin America and the Caribbean and expressed their desire to establish new goals to strengthen the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

"Presient Lusinchi conveyed to President Alfonsin the deep satisfaction of the people and Government of Venezuela for the reestablishment of a democratic system of government in Argentina as a result of a decision expressed by the people in a free election.

"At the center of the talks held by the two presidents was the prevalence of democratic governments in the continent. They reviewed the causes that prompted the presence of de facto regimes in American countries, which are so out of keeping with the ideas sowed in the minds of our peoples by the liberators Bolivar and San Martin.

"In this respect, they reaffirmed their faith in the ethical and political values of a pluralist, democratic society. They also expressed their conviction that man can only achieve self-fulfillment within a fair sociopolitical system which promotes an effective distribution of wealth, equal access to well-being and to all other advantages available in a democratic system. They also expressed their hope that all processes under way in other sister countries on the continent to achieve democratization will soon and successfully with the elimination of those de facto regimes which, by denying the people from expressing their will in a clear, free election, are preventing the peoples of our continent from truly exercising their democratic beliefs.

"They confirmed the support of their respective governments for those guiding principles governing relations among all states in keeping with the provisions of international law, especailly those concerning legal equality and sovereignty of all states, self-determination of all peoples, nonintervention, territorial integrity, and peaceful solution of international controversies in line with the desires to promote democracy and peace harbored by their governments.

"The Venezuelan president expressed his satisfaction over the decision of the Argentine democratic government to seek a solution to the conflict involving the Malvinas, South Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands and to regain sovereignty over them through peaceful means, proof of which has already been given by the government of President Alfonsin.

"The presidents of Venezuela and Argentina reviewed the current human rights situation in Latin America and noted that serious human rights violations are a shameful chapter in the history of the region. they reaffirmed their conviction that their democratic governments have assigned priority to protecting and safeguarding human rights and to eliminating political and socioeconomic injustices. In this respect, they expressed their commitment ot struggle together to fight and to help eradicate these violations in order to make justice prevail and to promote respect for human life and security.

"The two presidents regarded terrorism as a threat to the lives of peoples and to peace. They agreed on stating that acts of this nature must be punished in accordance with worldwide legal provisions and expressed their disposition to support, both at a bilateral and international level, sound proposals which would help fight this crime effectively.

"They share the opinion that Latin American unity will only be achieved through effective integration. Therefore, they commit themselves to doing their best to achieve this through the adequate use of their human, economic, and technological resources and, at the same time, by ensuring the exercise of the political sovereignty of states.

"They, therefore, reiterated the great importance of the existing integration framework and the need for their consolidation for Latin American and Caribbean countries. They ratified the determination of their governments jointly to make the necessary efforts to in these difficult times, instill. The much-needed vitality into these frameworks in order to efficiently respond to the expectations of the peoples of La in America and to implement concrete actions to coordinate the joint development of the region's wealth and possibilities.

"Both chiefs of state highlighted the need of stimulating other cooperation mechanisms with countries that have a similar level of economic and social development in order to realign trade trends and other aspects of the economic sector, thereby permitting a decrease of the dependency of developing countries within the current economic order on the economies of the industrialized countries.

"The presidents carefully examined the serious convulsion that is affecting the sister countries of Central America, characterized by social, political and economic tension and armed violence, which have dangerous international links that threaten the region's peace. they expressed their satisfaction with the important peace negotiations being carried out by the Contadora Group that are inspired by the nexus of solidarity of Latin American brotherhood, and they committed themselves to provide the most decided cooperation to promote reciprocal confidence between the groups that are in conflict in order to seek a line of convergence between the parties in order to implement an effective and enduring peace within the framework of absolute respect for the sovereignty of the states that are affected by the controversy and to stop the region from becoming the scenario of an East-West confrontation.

"Considering the financial difficulties of the developing countries, especially those of Latin America, both chiefs of state shared the idea that the payment of the external debt must be adapted to the real possibilities of long-term cancellation and that the necessary measures of austerity and rationalization must not significantly affect economic development plans nor the social programs that benefit the people.

"The two chiefs of state coincided in pointing out the urgent need that the region's external debt be analyzed with the industrialized countries within an ample political framwork that includes the study of the shared responsibility of the origin of the debt, and that will take into account the negative political consequences that the subject has for the consolidation of democracy within the continent. Within this context, they coincided in expressing their concern that said political consequences are not being perceived in all their seriousness by the industrialized countries.

"In this respect, the two chiefs of state agreed to harmonize the policies of their goverments in order to offer better protection and defense of their respective interests.

"The chiefs of state of Venezuela and Argentina again reaffirmed the traditional friendship and cooperation between their countries and their agreement regarding the need to build a community that is much more closely integrated and united. In this respect, they announced their decision to maintain direct consultations and to dedicate their efforts to achieve the goals and aspirations that happily unite the two presidents, their government, and the peoples of Venezuela and Argentina.

"When they discussed the topic of bilateral relations, the two presidents expressed their firm desire to develop a dynamic policy capable of promoting a more effective link that will permit the overcoming of the traditional obstacles that distort the natural and historical links, and which maintain an artificial isolation between our countries. In this respect, they decided, in light of the numerous agreements, accords, and acts that link the two countries, to intensify and give new stimulus to the cooperation in the economic, trade, cultural, scientific and technical sectors. They also decided that high-level meetings would shortly take place in order to identify specific sectors for such cooperation.

"At the conclusion of the talks, President Alfonsin invited President Lusinchi to visit Argentina. The president of Venezuela happily accepted the invitation, and the details will be worked out through the usual diplomatic channels.

"The Argentine president thanked the Venezuelan president for the attention and deference that he received during his stay in the country, both by the national government and the people themselves, who saw in his person a symbol of the democratic tradition of the sister nation."

MEXICO'S SEPULVEDA COMMENTS ON VISIT, DEPARTS

FL062000 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Caracas, 4 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda presided over the Mexican delegation to the inauguration of Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, to whom he expressed the Mexican people's best wishes for success in his presidency.

When interviewed by NOTIMEX minutes before his return to Mexico, Sepulveda stated that his stay in Venezuela had made evident the good relations that have existed between the two countries for the past 10 years, and that these relations have been reinforced throughout the region by the San Jose Agreement and the Contadora Group, which represent a very important expression of political cooperation.

Mexico and Venezuela signed the San Jose Agreement in August 1980 to satisfy the oil needs of Central America and the Caribbean and, as a cooperative measure, to solve regional economic problems. In like fashion, both nations are members of the Contadora Group, which seeks a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis.

Sepulveda stated that during his stay in Caracas he contacted Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and discussed with him ways to increase bilateral relations.

In addition to meeting with the new Argentine president, Sepulveda met with Colombian President Belisario Betancur and Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella and discussed the Central American situation. He also met with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to discuss bilateral relations. Sepulveda said Felipe Gonzalez expressed the desire that Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid visit Spain.

SEPULVEDA SAYS CONTADORA TO 'LATIN AMERICANIZE'

FL062048 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2310 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Foreign Relations Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today announced that the Contadora Group will Latin Americanize itself in order to extend its peacemaking efforts to the entire region. He said that this approach was adopted after all the Latin American heads of state who attended the inauguration of Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi expressed their support of it.

Interviewed on his arrival at the international airport, the Mexican foreign secretary said that with this support, solutions can be found which originate with the Latin Americans, themselves, to Latin American problems.

On other matters, the Mexican foreign secretary said that the San Jose Pact, an agreement by which Mexico and Venezuela supply petroleum under favorable conditions to Central American and Caribbean countries, will remain in effect because both have agreed to continue the program. Sepulveda Amor added that Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration was a splendid opportunity to reaffirm Mexico's presence in Latin America.

OPPOSITION PARTIES CONDEMN VIOLENCE IN PUEBLA

PA070239 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 27-A

[By Jaime Contreras]

[Excerpts] All the opposition parties with the exception of the Popular Socialist Party, have criticized the use of terror tactics and violence by "more than 250 policemen and 400 members of the cobra goon squads" to clear the entrance of the mayor's office in Puebla, Puebla State. Not only did they blame Governor Guillermo Jimenez Morales for these actions but also "the government, for refusing to accept the legitimate victories of the majority at the polls." They also urged the govenment "not to fall into further political degradation with bloodshed and more political errors."

Jesus Gonzalez Schmall, National Action Party, PAN, leader, said that the country's authorities, and in this case the authorities of Puebla, "are hurting the people's most sensitive rights and deeply arousing the indignation of the majority."

The PAN leader emphatically said that these acts "can get out of the party's hands and out of the regime's control through more violence, which of course we have not promoted," and he added that they undermine "the government's speeches on what it has called moral renovation."

Meanwhile, the PSUM [United Socialist Party of Mexico], PRT [Workers' Revolutionary Party], and PMT [Mexican Workers Party], through their offical spokesmen, strongly criticized Governor Jimenez Morales, as well as the government, "for trying to limit the parties' political participation."

Meanwhile, the official spokesman of the Popular Socialist Party has said that "the right wing is always using provocations as a political weapon to find loopholes and exert pressure on the government for its own objectives. [quotation marks as published]

He said that PAN is associated with the clergy "and Yankee imperialism" to provoke and cause violence "and afterward create new martyrs in order to betray the decisions of the nationalist and revolutionary state."

PPS LEADER CRITICIZES CHURCH, GOVERNMENT

PA062117 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jan 84 p 20-A

[Text] Yesterday the Popular Socialist Party [PPS] expressed its concern, "because it has been observed that the negative forces within and without the government want to enclose the president in an iron ring and prevent his association with popular, democratic, and revolutionary forces."

PPS Secretary General Jorge Cruickshank Garcia demanded that the progressive sectors seek positive solutions for the crisis and form a common front against "the right, counterrevolution, and imperialism." He expressed this last night during the PPS annual dinner that was held at the Juan de la Barrera gymnasium.

In a 43-page speech, the leader spoke of the danger of a nuclear war, the Mexican crisis, and the intervention of the church in politics. He also attacked imperialism and criticized several state secretaries.

Garcia said it is clear that rightist conservative sectors have infiltrated the state apparatus. "The Church has penetrated deeply into government sectors. The Opus Dei -- the church's most nefarious action organization -- is pervasive in important sectors in the country's life."

Garcia also mentioned the meeting between Nuevo Leon Governor Alfonso Martinez Dominguez and bishops from the Gulf of Mexico area, and said that the officials in charge of financial matters are carrying out a policy that further subjects us to foreign influences. He specifically said the progressive Mexicans should be alarmed over the commitments with the IMF into which the finance and public credit secretary and the Bank of Mexico director have led the country.

Garcia also said that Mexico should join the group of countries that during the Quito Latin American Economic Conference determined to unite their efforts to overcome their difficulties, and finally he reiterated his attacks on Mexican Government officials.

"The secretary of commerce and industrial development is continuing to carry out a policy contrary to the interests of the working class and the improverished people. For this reason, our party, as well as the working class organized into the Labor Congress, demands that this official leave the government."

In addition, the agrarian reform secretary, "who has obscure Rockefellerian antecedents, who is an advocate of support for private land owners, and who is an enemy of the collective exploitation of the land," has imposed counterrevolutionary reforms on the agrarian sector.

Garcia said that although the government has denied it, the latest amendments to agrarian laws alter the positive meaning of Article 27 of the Constitution, affect the proprietorship structure of common lands and indigenous communities, benefit private owners, and strengthen the capitalist trend of agricultural development.

Finally, Garcia said that the PPS has not become radicalized "as some superficial observers have asserted, because the PPS continues to be a revolutionary party."

PAREDES LETTER ON KISSINGER COMMISSION REPORT

PA061848 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 5 Feb 84 pp 1, A-14

[Letter sent by Panamanian Brigadier General Ruben Dario Paredes, retired, to Dr Henry Kissinger on 2 February 1984]

[Excerpts] Dr Henry Kissinger
Economic Adviser
U.S. Government
Suite 1400, 1800 K Street N.W.
Washington 206 [as published]

Dear Mr Kissinger:

As a Central American and candidate for the presidency of the Republic of Panama, I wish to make certain respectful and objective observations regarding the magnificent effort make by the commission that you head.

The commission acknowledges that national poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, the unbalanced growth of the economy, and the poor distribution of revenues are major causes of the situation that currently prevails in Central America. Later on, it intelligently recognizes that expansionist marxism is capitalizing on this prevailing situation.

It is very brave of you to admit that not all of the Central Americans who are up in arms in the countryside and mountains of our countries are either Marxists or communists. Rather, social injustice, their loss of faith in the system that rules them, and, above all, the loss of any hope of being able to support and educate their offspring have led them to these circumstances. It is true, however, the most of the guerrilla leaders are Marxists.

Thus, the recommendation that the U.S. Government provide $8 billion to the region's various countries, along with increasing its food aid in order to reduce hunger, creating a literacy corps, and providing training to benefit both human and other resources, is a good one.

However, the commission fails to warn that current political structures are designed to maintain these conditions in Central America, and that political control by the sectors that benefit from this situation makes change impossible.

At least in our homeland, Panama, it is necessary that we reorganize public administration to ensure the efficient use and administration of the state's resources and of the economic aid that might be obtained. It is also necessary that truly democratic systems be implemented in all of the area's countries, taking democratic systems to mean those that legitimately respond to the peoples' will and desires, as expressed in honest elections. Unless these changes are made on a timely basis, the Reagan plan for Central America might meet the same fate as did the Alliance for Progress, which, as everyone knows, did not really reach those whom former President Kennedy wanted it to reach: the neediest people.

Properly implemented, however, we could ensure the same success that the Marshall Plan had in Europe after it was destroyed by the war.

I think it is healthy to stress that in view of the Central American crisis, along with the valuable aid proposed by the United States, a review of the democratic systems that are currently undergoing crises is necessary.

The existence of political parties and of elections is not the only guarantee needed to establish true democracy in these countries. Most parties primarily respond to the interests of their elite, rather than to the needs of the people. No true equality of opportunities exists in the political arena.

The demands made by young people, middle-class groups, and professionals, all of whom create groups with genuine ambitions and with the intellectual capacity to acquire greater participation in the political power and development of their countries, find no room within the current political power structures.

As long as the channels for political participation are denied these groups, which we in Panama have called THE THIRD FORCE [capitalization as published], the results of the programs recommended by the National Bipartisan Commission will fail to correct existing injustices and will therefore fail to achieve the political objective of social peace in the region.

We have grave reservations about that part of the report dealing with "security matters." In the first place, the mistake of considering Central America's problems to be a U.S. security issue is repeated, and solutions are therefore sought for the United States that do not necessarily coincide with the solutions required by our countries.

The recommendations made are a repetition of the U.S. "Beans and Bullets" policy for Central America, differing only in terms of quantity.

The commission also recommends the use of military forces as a last recourse. I believe that the use of conventional military forces will not resolve the problem. It might crush it, but such a solution will last only until those who have been crushed reorganize.

It is preferable to avoid a disastrous war like that in Vietnam, which, in practical terms, left Southeast Asia in the hands of the communists. We do not want that to happen to the Central American countries, which include Panama geographically. This geographic proximity makes us vulnerable to the Central American conflict. Nor do we want that fate for any country in Latin America, or anywhere else in the world for that matter.

However, this last option might lead to the emergence of an effective multinational force for "Peace and Reconstruction." Wherever violence and slaughter reach intolerable levels, that force would guarantee a cease-fire while the conflicting parties sit down to negotiate a political and democratic solution in which the people have the final say. This peace force would consist of OAS member countries.

In making this suggestion, we must mention the Contadora Group. In my view, this group must be strengthened with the addition of other Latin American sectors, perhaps the Andean Pact countries. Once reinforced, the Contadora Group could become a mediator and conciliator among the conflicting parties, while the force for "Peace and Reconstruction," which would have already had to intervene, would guarantee the tranquillity needed for the negotiations in search of a solution to succeed.

It is regrettable that the commission did not include a more realistic assessment of Panama's situation in its report. At first glance, Panama gives one the impression that it does not have the problems affecting the other agitated Central American countries. But those of us who experience and feel these problems, those who know the country from within, those of us who know about frustrated aspirations, know that the problems are there and that any moment they will rise to the surface with similar or greater violence than has affected El Salvador, Nicaragua, and other suffering countries.

The world and Latin America have evolved, and the Central American people have changed as well. There is an equation expressing humankind's behavior, which is known to the honrable members of the commission. The equation states: "THE AGE OF TODAY'S COMMON MAN IS EQUAL TO A SPIRALING REVOLUTION OF ASPIRATIONS." [capitalization as published]

I think that, given its noble purposes, this plan should be supervised by the best men in each country, not necessarily by members of the various administrations, but by those whose credentials are their capability, honesty, and honorability in the eyes of their respective societies. Should this plan fail, the consequences would be disastrous.

The Council of The Americas, over which Mr Rockefeller presides, might contribute to this effort and might provide the advice needed to perfect and increase the efficacy of our government and of our civic, business, union, labor, industrial, agricultural, and other institutions.

Mr Kissinger and members of your distinguished commission, please receive these thoughts with the greatest objectivity from a Panamanian who loves his country and who wants peace to prevail in Central America.

Your friend,
Brig Gen Ruben D. Paredes, retired

FRAMPO SUPPORTS ARDITO BARLETTA CANDIDACY

PA062200 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 6 Feb 84 pp 1, 14

[By Jaime Beitia]

[Text] The Popular Broad Front Party, FRAMPO, has announced through Alvaro Arosemena, its secretary general, its full support for Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta's presidential candidacy in the 6 May elections.

In Good and Bad Times

The FRAMPO has announced that its members will support Ardito Barletta, former Panamaian economy minister and vice president of the World Bank for Latin America, in good and bad times. He has also received the following parties' support: Labor Party, People's Party, Revolutionary Democratic Party, and Liberal Party.

FRAMPO Will Maintain Its Independent Line

Even though the Popular Broad Front Party has decided to support Doctor Ardito Barletta, the party will maintain its independent line. In addition, the party's secretary general has asserted that the political organization will maintain its demands to achieve an alliance in the presidential nomination.

According to Alvaro Arosemena, an alliance is necessary for the May and June elections, and this can only be achieved through a dialogue and with the participation of all the political parties.

Understanding and Respect

Arosemena added that the unity needed for the May and June 1984 elections can only be achieved through understanding and respect for each party's personality.

FRAMPO members will designate their presidential candidate during their national convention on 26 February, and their legislative candidates on 18 February; their candidates for mayor and Corregimiento representative will also be announced on 18 February.

Main Objective

According to Alvaro Arosemena, the FRAMPO's main objective within the party's political strategy is to continue its activities after the elections.

Finally, he issued a call to the Panamanian people to vote and freely elect their next president.

PAPO, PDC Presidential Candidates

PA062230 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 6 Feb 84 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Text] Two more candidates of the opposition parties were nominated yesterday, Sunday, for the presidency of the republic, thus increasing the number of those aspiring to the nation's top post.

The Popular Action Party (PAPO) convention, held at the Lung Fung Restaurant, after a heated debate that prompted the resignation of Alvin Weeden, decided to designate the presidential ticket as follows: Dr Carlos Ivan Zuniga for president, and Dr Manuel Garcia Almengor and Doris de Mata for first and second vice president. Thus, the Popular Action Party decided to run with its own candidates.

Due to what he considered "a manipulation of the convention," Alvin Weeden publicly resigned as secretary general and as a member of the party. He was backed by a large number of delegates, who walked out of the convention with him.

Meanwhile, at the Executive Hotel, the National Directorate of the Christian Democratic Party decided to recommend Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon for nomination as presidential candidate for the party, leaving the first and second vice presidencies open in the case of future alliances with other opposition parties.

PRT Vice Presidential Candidates

PA062308 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 6 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] It has been learned from well-informed sources that Dr Jose Renan Esquivel, presidential candidate for the Revolutionary Party of the Workers [PRT], has completed his ticket as follows: Carmen A. Miro G. for first vice president, and Bernardo Dominguez, better known as Rogelio Sinan, for second vice president.

ALIPO To Become Independent Party

PA061413 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 6 Feb 84 pp 44, C-10

[Manifesto to the Nation issued by the Panamanian Popular Liberal Alliance, ALIPO, in Panama City, 4 February]

[Text] The national and community leaders of ALIPO, in light of the absence of a clear orientation for Panamanian liberalism's rank and file during Panama's current difficult period, declare the following:

1. ALIPO has decided to become an independent political movement in order to vindicate genuine Panamanian liberalism.

2. Our movement will welcome all those citizens to its ranks who wish to participate and to be active in the political process, inspired by an honest desire to offer positive solutions for the grave economic, social, fiscal, and moral crisis the Republic now faces.

3. In due time, ALIPO will inform the country of its decision to become a legally recognized national political party.

[Signed] Dario Pitti Serrano, president; Ramon Gonzalez Martans, secretary general

YA QUESTIONS GOVERNMENT PROMISE OF NEUTRALITY

PA032202 Panama City YA in Spanish 3 Feb 84 pp 4, 12

[Article by Pablo Castrejon]

[Excerpt] PALA [Labor Party] President Carlos Eleta Almaran has said in a radio interview that he cannot agree to run for president until after he consults with President Ricardo de la Espriella and the National Defense Forces.

Both President Ricardo de la Espriella and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces, have said on more than one occasion that the elections will be free and honest, meaning that the Armed Forces and the central government will be neutral.

But when a leader of the PALA, a pro-government party, declares that he will only be a candidate if the president and National Defense Forces approve, he places the statements made by the president and the commander on neutrality in a very bad light.

BELIZE

NEWSPAPER EDITOR JAILED FOR CRITICAL ARTICLES

PA042022 Paris AFP in Spanish 0348 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Belize City, 3 Feb (AFP) -- The Supreme Court of Justice of Belize has sentenced union leader Cyril Davis to 2 weeks in jail after he declared himself guilty of having published two articles "offensive" to the judicial system.

Davis is the editor of the bulletin LABOUR BEACON in which he published the two articles strongly criticizing the judicial system and accusing the Supreme Court of favoring the governing People's United Party.

The attorney general acted immediately, and Davis had to appear before the chief Supreme Court justice in the city of Belize. Davis admitted having gravely offended the court and its justices and committed himself to publishing a clarification in the city's newspapers.

Some news media have reported [words indistinct] the sentence on Davis.

COSTA RICA

MONGE DISCUSSES NICARAGUAN REFUGEE SITUATION

PA051942 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Feb 84

[News conference given by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge in Panama City on 4 February -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Monge] At the time of my departure, the problem was as follows: We have been receiving groups of Nicarguans in Costa Rica since the beginning of the Nicaraguan war. Most of them are elderly people, children, and women in very precarious conditions. We organized ourselves to receive these people and established medical and food services. We were receiving aid from the appropriate UN bodies.

However, as I was about to leave for Caracas, an announcement was made which completely changed that refugee picture: Commander Eden Pastora announced that some people had approached him to join his ranks, but that he had neither weapons nor food for them, so he was going to send them to Costa Rica.

Our authorities announced that an individual study of all these people would be conducted. We were giving refugee status to elderly people, women, and children, who benefitted from the programs already established on their behalf. We had to treat former or potential combatants according to the Havana Convention of 1928, which concerns excombatants. We could not accord them refugee status. This upset Commander Pastora, and this morning the foreign minister advised me that those people had returned to Nicaragua. Contrary to reports, they totaled neither 1,000 nor 2,000, but about 120 people, who refused to be treated in accordance with the Havana Convention of 1928. This is the current situation.

[Unidentified reporter] Does this mean that Costa Rica will not be sending Nicaraguan refugees to Panama?

[Monge] We had said we would ask other countries to receive some of these former combatants, but we no longer have to approach friendly and neighboring countries. This is a very heavy burden for us already, with the refugees alone.

As for the former combatants, who would have been treated in accordance with the Havana Convention of 1928, we have no international aid for them. Neither the Red Cross nor the United Nations can offer them anything. We had to assume the responsibility of feeding them, we had to support them while in Costa Rican territory. However, this morning I learned that those who would have qualified as former combatants and would have had to be interned in Costa Rica, and who we would have to support while we sought aid for them, have returned to Nicaraguan territory.

REFINANCING OF NICARAGUAN DEBT APPROVED

PA060447 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] The board of directors of Costa Rica's Central Bank has approved an agreement on the debt of Nicaragua's Central Bank to Costa Rica. The agreement gives Nicaragua trade advantages.

The agreement states that the interest payment due on 31 December 1983 on the debt that Nicaragua's Central Bank has with Costa Rica from ordinary and special transactions of the Chamber of Compensation will be settled by paying $2 million immediately and $1,050,000 in monthly installments, for which four notes will be signed that will bear interest at LIBOR [London Interbank Offered Rate] plus 1 percent.

The bank approved that Nicaragua's $42.1 million debt with the Costa Rican Central Bank be certified within 15 days. The bank approved a two-to-one ratio in favor of Costa Rica on bilateral trade between the two countries. Under the agreement, Costa Rica will export goods worth a maximum of $40 million to Nicaragua. Nicaragua will make up the trade deficit by paying 50 percent of the deficit immediately and the remaining 50 percent within 1 year in proportional and consecutive monthly installments.

It was made clear that the agreement is subject to financial compliance with the obligations that Nicaragua has with the Costa Rican Central Bank. These obligations will be reviewed every month and, in case of noncompliance, the balanced market relationship will be immediately reestablished.

EL SALVADOR

PDC'S DUARTE DETAILS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL PLAN

PA040514 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] In his latest television appearance, Jose Napoleon Duarte, Christian Democratic Party presidential candidate, limited his presidential platform to the solution of the country's economic problem from a global and regional viewpoint, in what he called a "social pact."

Duarte emphasized the need to grant economic and technical support to the agro-industrial sector in order to raise the country's productive system, using new methods to best utilize our resources. Citing statistical data, he analyzed the problem that the coffee producers, cotton producers, sugar cane growers, and the small- and medium-sized industrialists are facing. For each of these sectors he announced the work plans that his administration would initiate to solve the country's economic, social, and cultural problems.

Referring to "the rumors that his political enemies have spread among the Salvadoran electorate, in order to instill an attitude of terror," Duarte said that during his government there would be no urban reform, no nationalization of the media, no salary freezes, and the government would not be shared with the guerrillas.

He also reaffirmed that his government would be democratic, would allow participation, and would maintain an understanding of all the social classes.

CARRILLO REPORTED CHIEF OF CHALATENANGO GARRISON

PA040617 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 3 Feb 84 pp 2, 38

[Text] The designation of Colonel Juan Carlos Carrillo Schlenker as chief of the Chalatenango military detachment is considered the most important change within the Armed Forces (in February), according to reports issued yesterday.

Colonel Carillo had been deputy director of the Treasury Police, a post he assumed in the early part of 1983, replacing Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce. Colonel Carrillo's post at the Treasury Police will be assumed by Colonel Roberto Armando Rivera, who was stationed at the garrison in La Libertad Department and who is to be replaced by Colonel Mario Enrique Acevedo, according to unofficial reports.

Colonel Francisco Raul Lopez, who had been chief of the Chalatenango garrison, has been named to a vacant post in Civic-Military Action.

The changes listed are unofficial. When consulted, spokesmen for the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee said that they had no knowledge of them. Officers questioned about this said that some of these changes are routine and are only armed services matters. Others said that among the changes made in February, some details are not yet sufficiently clear.

SAN MIGUEL RECRUITMENT ENDS; MALES REAPPEAR

PA031754 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 3

[Excerpt] San Miguel, 1 Feb -- A radio message broadcast last night by Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, chief of the 3d Infantry Brigade, dispelled the fears of parents and students that had kept San Miguel schools and universities empty.

In a broadcast over Radio Chaparrastique, Monterrosa said that, on orders of the Armed Forces General Staff, recruitment in San Miguel had ended. The recruitment process had caused schools, institutes, and universities to remain deserted until today. In his brief message, the officer stated that the number of youths required to make up the new battalions to be sworn in in the next few days had been reached.

San Miguel residents said that the recruitment campaign there had been suspended in response to parental requests and protests and because of the negative effect it was having on San Miguel school, business, and work activities. The entire population of male youths had vanished as a result of the recruitment campaign.

Following Col Monterrosa's message, the city looked different today. Thousands of rural and urban youths filled streets, schools, workshops, and stores, without fear that they would end up swelling the ranks of the garrisons with no future other than that of the battlefield.

It is also worth noting that the situation in San Miguel has shown visible improvement in the past few days. There has been a noticeable return to normalcy in all aspects of city life.

MILITARY ADVANCES, CLASHES WITH GUERRILLAS NOTED

PA062220 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Military reports from Usulutan, 113 km southeast of San Salvador, state that 6 guerrilla camps were totally destroyed near San Agustin, and that 15 FMLN rebels were killed when they clashed with government troops. It was also learned that military civic action troops have been deployed to San Agustin to supply health care and medication to the residents of that area, which had been under leftist control for the past 1 and 1/2 years. Motorized units and heavy equipment have been used to repair the road that leads from the coastal highway to San Agustin. Due to the bad state of the road, collective transportation could not use it.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran Army units supported by medical and military civic action brigades continue advancing toward the province of Jucuaran, in Usulutan Department. Leftists occupied the area on Thursday, provoking a massive exodus of residents who sought safety in other areas because of the possibility of clashes between the rebels and Army. CONARA [National Commission for Reconstruction of Affected Areas] spokesmen in Usulutan have reported that the only objective of the military civic action troops and the Army is to establish order and offer assistance to the civilian residents in these areas in southeast Usulutan.

Salvadoran Army units and military spokesmen in the second most important city of the country have reported that currently there are intensive search operations being carried out in northern Santa Ana Department and at the border with Chalatenango Department, where this week the leftists attacked the civil defense members in El Jobo hamlet. Nine patrolmen protecting the area were killed during the attack. With the increase in guerrilla actions in Santa Ana Department, an area that had remained undisturbed for the past 1 and 1/2 years, the military units have promised to restore order and tranquillity in the area as soon as possible.

An urgent call for help was made today by the civilian authorities and residents of Chalatenango Department and the residents of the northern areas of San Salvador Department for the Electric Power Company of San Salvador [CAESS] emergency team to restore power to the area. The area has been without power since Friday when leftists destroyed the secondary high voltage towers at km 28. Approximately 28 towns have been without power since Friday, and CAESS has not been able to repair the damage caused by the rebels.

REBEL CLINIC DISMANTLED IN USULUTAN DEPARTMENT

PA062235 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador; no date given]

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, reports that over the weekend the Salvadoran Army inflicted 17 deaths on the rebels and dismantled a clandestine clinic. An extremist column was surprised by troops of the 3d Infantry Brigade of San Miguel between the towns of Jucuapa and Chinameca in the eastern departments of Usulutan and San Miguel. Fifteen rebels and a soldier were killed during the skirmish that followed. Troops of the 5th Infantry Brigade clashed with terrorist bands on the road between Santa Clara and San Vicente. Two rebels were killed, and the Army reported no casualties among its troops. Meanwhile, in the area of Salinas de Sisiguayo, Jiquilisco jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, a clandestine clinic was dismantled by members of the National Navy. A large amount of medicine, especially antibiotics and analgesics, was recovered.

GUERRILLA ATTACK ON GUARNECIA REPORTED

PA032253 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1625 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran guerrillas today claimed to have killed seven Armed Forces members during an attack on the small town of Guarnecia, located 80 km north of San Salvador.

The attack at dawn was the second on Guarnecia, which had been relatively calm until now. A major guerrilla faction is located north of Guarnecia, in the mountains of Chinandega Department. A leftist radio station said that the guerrillas had seized nine weapons including a machine gun. According to early reports, seven Armed Forces members were killed in the attack.

Military sources in the village of Nueva Concepcion, near Guarnecia, told ACAN-EFE that the guerrilla operation had resulted in several dead, but they did not specify an exact number or to what Army battalion they were attached. The same sources said the area is calm today.

FMLN RADIO ALLEGES HONDURAN ARMY KILLINGS

PA032254 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The puppet Honduran Army continues to kill the Salvadoran people. Gustavo Alvarez, the Yankees' servant, has ordered his troops to remove the Salvadoran refugee camps and to fire on our brothers.

On 25 January, in a place known as Canguacota, in Honduras, a group of Salvadoran women, elderly people, and children was ambushed by Honduran Army elements. At least eight Salvadorans died in the criminal ambush. The Salvadorans were on their way to the Mesa Grande refugee camp in Honduras. Three women, one of whom was pregnant, were among those who were murdered by the Honduran puppets. Two other Salvadorans were wounded and four more are missing.

We condemn this new crime against our people committed by the puppet Honduran Army.

FMLN FORCES CLASH WITH 3D INFANTRY BRIGADE

PA040635 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 Feb 84

[War Bulletin issued by the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front in El Salvador; date not given]

[Text] FMLN squads carried out armed incursions in the village of San Buenaventura on 2 February.

At 2100, enemy forces of the 3d Infantry Brigade were transported by helicopter to Los Llanitos canton, Chinameca municipality. The enemy's patrols were traveling to Jucuapa. At 2200, our forces clashed with the enemy in the neighborhood of La Cruz in Jucuapa. The clash lasted approximately 15 minutes, and the enemy lost two men. Our forces withdrew without any problem.

Companero Luis was in charge of the operation. Companero Pedro reported this from the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front in Usulutan.

POWER OUTAGES AIMED AGAINST 'ELECTORAL FARCE'

PA051746 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] On 1 February squads of our guerrilla columns again sabotaged the electrical system of the U.S. imperialists' puppet regime.

Last Wednesday our guerrilla combatants blew up three more electrical posts on km 40 of the Northern Trunk Highway. This operation left the enemy headquarters in Apopa, Guazapa, and Aguilares in the dark. These sabotage operations against the regime's war economy are taking place despite the enemy Army's constant patrolling of the Northern Trunk Highway, especially in San Salvador Department.

By undermining the enemy's war economy, our people express their rejection of the electoral farce. Permanent sabotage is an offensive weapon for defeating the enemy.

SALVADORAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY HELD

PA052237 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Excerpts] By winning rights for women and children we will build the new society. For the first time in the history of the Salvadoran woman, a Salvadoran Women's Association [Asociacion de Mujeres de El Salvador] assembly was held with great enthusiasm here in heroic Chalatenango Department. During the assembly, called "Marianela Garcia and All Women Fallen During the Revolution," the fighting women of the east, west, central and paracentral fronts, and the metropolitan area, chose their national directorate, planned their congress, and coordinated the struggle of the revolutionary woman throughout El Salvador.

For 4 days the companeras discussed the strategic role played now and in the future by all the women of our country in the people's struggle for liberation. The Salvadoran woman -- exploited on farms and in factories, reduced to a household object, isolated from the struggle against her children's hunger, and for their health, housing, and better living situation -- is organizing and will break down the barriers. The struggle will be collective, and it will join the struggle of all our people for a worthy life.

AMES is calling on the women in Santa Ana, Berlin, Jiquilisco, and hamlets and villages throughout the country; on the woman who has taken refuge; on the woman in the factory and the home; on students and laborers; on all of you, to join in our struggle and cooperate with the revolutionary movement.

VENCEREMOS HITS ARMY ADVANCE IN SAN MIGUEL

PA060456 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Excerpt] We announce that a few hours ago Colonel Domingo Monterrosa began an alleged, between quotation marks, silent and secret advance into northern San Miguel Department with a Cazadores Battalion and the Catracho [Honduran] Arce Battalion, which was reorganized in Honduras by the Gringos. The advance is so silent and secret that everyone knows about it. It is so silent and secret that we knew about it before it began.

We are warning of this new Monterrosa advance because it could end as they usuallly do with massacres of civilian residents, like he did when he bombed the town of Carolina only a few days ago.

Monterrosa has begun another absurd and dirty advance. How will it end? Will it only be another wearisome advance for his demoralized troops, a procession toward annihilation or a quick withdrawal? The answer to these questions is the only secret in this new operation being carried out by Monterrosa.

FARABUNDO MARTI DEPLORES BOMBING OF CIVILIANS

PA070028 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Yankee bombs continue to kill women and children in our country. Attention, Salvadoran people: Another bombing operation was carried out against the Guazapa Hill civilian population.

Yesterday, 5 February, at 1500, 2 U.S.-made A-37 planes dropped 12 high-power bombs on the (Mirandia), (La Pava), and El Zapote cantons, in the environs of Suchitoto, Cuscatlan Department. Those warplanes of the dictatorship killed six more peasants residing in the area under revolutionary control.

The air raid ordered by the pirate [Air Force Commander Colonel] Juan Rafael Bustillo resulted in the death of the following people: 40-year-old Aquilina Rivera and her 3-year-old daughter Lorena Rivera; a 25-year-old pregnant women named Elena; 17-year-old Manuel Escobar and his 11-year-old brother; and another child, 3-year-old Francisco Cuellas. As a result of this criminal bombing, three other people were wounded. They are currently receiving medical treatment in people's clinics.

The so-called great progress achieved in respect for the Salvadoran people's human rights has resulted in the loss of new lives, because of the bombs sent by the demented Ronald Reagan to his puppets. Our people repudiate the bombing of cantons and villages in El Salvador's countryside. We demand an immediate halt to the bombing of defenseless civilians.

GUATEMALA

MLN REJECTS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN

PA040402 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The MLN [National Liberation Movement] has formally requested that diplomatic relations with Spain not be renewed, as this would open the door to a cunning representation for communism. The MLN today said that it is concerned at the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry's sudden insistence on renewing diplomatic relations with Spain at any cost, despite the Spanish Government's rebuffs. The organization also said that this insistence is primarily the result of political interests, for the Spanish Government's philosophy is very well known, and the establishment of such relations would amount to permitting another sly representation for communism in our country.

The MLN added that it would be worthwhile to renew diplomatic relations if the trade balance with Spain favored our country. However, it sees no reason for our government to insist on or beg for these relations, for it has been abundantly demonstrated that many Spaniards have participated in guerrilla movements in Guatemala. Therefore, the MLN feels that it would be better to think about the issue of the Guatemalan refugees in Mexican territory, instead of worrying about whether or not there is a Spanish consular mission in our country.

HONDURAS

FOUR U.S. SOLDIERS KILLED IN HELICOPTER ACCIDENT

PA031722 Paris AFP in Spanish 1705 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Feb (AFP) -- The U.S. Embassy reported today that four U.S. soldiers were killed and six injured in an accident involving a helicopter flying from El Aguacate Base, 250 km northeast of this capital, to the Pacific port of San Lorenzo.

The helicopter was returning to San Lorenzo after participating in the transfer of Honduran soldiers participating in the operation in San Esteban, Olancho, which began last Monday as part of the joint U.S.-Honduran "Big Pine II" military maneuvers.

Credencio Arcos, director of the embassy information office, reported that the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter was traveling with a similar aircraft which lost radio contact due to the adverse weather conditions.

Arcos stated that "there is no indication of any hostile action" involved in the tragedy.

UN AMBASSADOR REFUTES NICARAGUAN CHARGES

PA062145 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Speech by Roberto Herrera Caceres, Honduran ambassador to the United Nations, during a UN Security Council meeting in New York; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] First of all, Mr President, allow me to express the Honduran delegation's satisfaction at seeing you preside over the important UN Security Council debates during this month.

The Sandinist government's representative has made some accusations that directly refer to my government, based on an alleged complicity in the events described in the note requesting this meeting. Honduras, Mr President, can assert with absolute certainty that the accusation is completely groundless.

No military aircraft has left its base under the circumstances and conditions that the Sandinist government's prodigious imagination has again invented, in its efforts to disguise the truth and the internal struggles that are taking place in its country.

Mr President, on 13 September 1983 the Sandinist government requested that the council convoke a meeting, making the same kind of unjustified accusations that it is making today against my government. Later events proved to the world that these were unjustified accusations, particularly when Eden Pastora, commander of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance which is fighting in the southern area of the Nicaragua, claimed responsibility for the attacks. He said the attacks had been carried out by his own Nicaraguan forces in Nicaraguan territory.

Today, Mr President, and due to a very systematic coincidence, new and equally false accusations are presented. They are presented just after another Contadora Group meeting ended yesterday, where we achieved progress toward the implementation of the document of objectives and the norms to carry out this document of objectives.

We were also trying to implement the Honduran initiative to create working groups for work on the different areas that are covered by the document of objectives: political, economic, social, and security. It is interesting, Mr President, to see how these coincidences take place when the peace efforts achieve progress.

Mr President, it is important for us -- who are clearly participating in the regional process of negotiations with the intention of achieving, in the near future, an overall regional solution that eliminates once and for all the causes that created the Central American conflict -- that the international community should exert its influence so that the Nicaraguan Government stops its provocations, because they may fall into their own traps. It is a call we make with the hope that they stop creating a climate of mistrust, which is contrary to the Contadora Group process. In truth, intrigue and malice are contrary to any negotiation process, even though they apparently tend to favor it.

Mr President, I do not wish to continue referring to the series of falsehoods that were presented here. This honorable council's time is much too precious for this. Nevertheless, we could not remain indifferent toward an attitude that has repeatedly tried to deceive and hide a cruel reality. This reality must be thoroughly analyzed because it refers to the internal problem that prevails in Nicaragua.

Our only request, Mr President, is that it be kept in mind that the Contadora Group process will have a happy ending in the sense that this political goal is unanimously advocated by all the states. Falseness is contrary to our goals. We reiterate our country's peaceful position and its full support for the process in which we are participating. Honduras, like any other sovereign state, is also training -- and will continue to do so -- its Armed Forces to defend its territory. The Honduran people are united, too.

I do not talk about wars here like the Nicaraguan delegation does. I speak about peace, because we preserve our internal peace and want to achieve international peace, too, particularly in Central America. Thank you, Mr President.

NICARAGUAN FISHERMEN DETAINED BY AUTHORITIES

PA031835 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 10

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Authorities from the General Directorate of Population and Immigration Policy, [Direccion General de Poblacion y Politica Migratoria -- DGPM] were reportedly going to give refugee status to 14 Nicaraguans who were detained by Honduran Coast Guards vessels in our territorial waters. However, the Nicaraguan fishermen were not taken to refugee camps, DGPM Director Colonel Manuel Enrique Suarez Benavides said yesterday when questioned about talks that are being held for the exchange of these foreigners for Hondurans detained in Nicaragua.

Col Suarez Benavides rejected the term "prisoner" to describe the fishermen. He said that our country "is holding a group of Nicaraguan citizens under the terms of our laws."

After acknowledging that 14 Nicaraguan fishermen have been detained in Honduras under guard for the past 15 days, the DGPM director said: "to date, we have no information on the date of the exchange" announced by the Honduran and Nicaraguan Governments.

INDIAN GROUP VOWS 'ARMED STRUGGLE' AGAINST ARMY

PA060501 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Liberation Organization of Honduran Indians [Organizacion de Liberacion de Indigenas Hondurenos -- OLIH] has charged in Mexico that those responsible for the killing of thousands of Miskitos are the Honduran Army, the Somozist counter-revolutionaries, and the U.S. troops that are participating in the "Big Pine II" maneuvers.

According to an ANN report from Mexico City, OLIH coordinator (Julio Cesar Calderon Morales) said that Reagan's puppets promote racial hatred, causing profound discrimination problems, in order to exterminate this ethnic group. ANN adds that (Calderon) also stressed in the Aztec capital that an armed struggle will be waged against the Army, which receives full support from the North American government, in order to attain freedom and social justice for his Honduran Indian brothers.

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTESTS SECOND HONDURAN RAID

PA041620 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has sent a new note to the Honduran Government protesting a second air attack yesterday at 0600 on a military unit of the Sandinist People's Army in the area of Manzanillo, Chinandega Department. As a result of the attack, militiaman Francisco Laguna was killed. The planes then withdrew toward Honduran territory.

In the protest note addressed to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, the Nicaraguan Government reiterates its deep concern over this chain of attacks and provocations. The Nicaraguan Government also insisted that the Honduran Government must not allow its territory and military materiel be used to continue attacking Nicaragua.

COMMUNIQUE ON RESUMPTION OF ELECTORAL PROCESS

PA070216 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Communique No 3 issued by the Directorate of Press and Information of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in Managua on 6 February]

[Text] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in view of the concern expressed by the State Council's Electoral Commission regarding the effects on the current electoral process of the recent terrorist air raids conducted from Honduras on the orders of the U.S. Government, informs the people of Nicaragua:

1. These concerns, duly emphasized, were presented by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, to the Latin American presidents meeting in Caracas on the occasion of the inauguration of Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, and these concerns were included in the final joint statement.

2. The revolutionary government presented charges regarding these terrorist and destabilizing actions before the UN Security Council.

3. As the revolutionary government has explained on various occasions, the elections to be held in Nicaragua, as decided by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, cannot be isolated from the environment of terrorist aggression, threats, and blackmail created by the Reagan administration.

4. Within this framework, the State Council will continue following the order issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in accordance with Decree 1354 of 4 December 1983 to approve the electoral law. The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction will make the official announcement setting the date and the manner in which the elections will be held on 21 February 1984, as previously announced.

DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW TO BE PRESENTED WEDNESDAY

PA062017 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1946 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Managua, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan State Council today announced that the draft electoral law will be presented this coming Wednesday to the Nicaraguan parliamentary plenary by the commission that drafted it.

The legislative organ announced that amendments will also be made to the Republic's basic law, adjusting "the country's highest law to the goals and objectives of the electoral process."

Reliable sources told ACAN-EFE today that in the next extraordinary session of the State Council (parliament), an advisory [dictaminadora] commission will be formed with the purpose of establishing the "Supreme Electoral Council," which will be the guiding body for the 1985 elections.

PSD MAKES DECLARATION ON ELECTION PARTICIPATION

PA041243 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 31 Jan 84 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] The Social Democratic Party, PSD, issued the following declaration on 28 January:

Today Nicaragua faces a serious crisis, resulting from the guidelines and dispositions which have been proposed and implemented by the revolutionary government. Under the Sandinist revolution, planned programs have suffered partial or total deviations or changes from the intent of the original government program, modifying the emerging Nicaraguan revolution into the already programmed Sandinist revolution. The plans of the Sandinist revolution -- which is Marxist-Leninist oriented -- have replaced the true sense of the evolution to benefit the Nicaraguan people with state-centered programs to benefit the Sandinist vanguard's ideological program.

To conclude, we believe that:

1. Nicaraguan social democracy should continue to struggle for a general amnesty that will guarantee broad respect for the Nicaraguans' right to elect and be elected (this, of course, excluding criminals and all those involved in genocidal murders during the Somoza regime).

2. True free, democratic, and guaranteed elections could put an end to counterrevolutionary activities and would enable us to conduct true national and family reconstruction for Nicaraguans.

3. Political pluralism and electoral activities are not possible without the implementation of a genuine system of freedom of expression and conveyance of thought, or if its use and availability are not implemented on an equal basis for the benefit of each and every party in the political arena.

4. Our political decision on how, with whom, or why we would participate in the elections will not be implemented or divulged as long as these conditions are not guaranteed or implemented, because at no time will we let our political decision accept impositions, nor will we cooperate with those who could perhaps have conceived a plan in advance which could be detrimental to the Nicaraguan people.

5. We will participate in elections as long as and when this exercise is truly democratic and carried out with the necessary guarantees. Our participation would be to reinforce the expectations of the Nicaraguan people and not to seek personal or individual benefits or benefits that would subjugate or impair our social democratic ideals.

6. We once again ratify our support for the document One More Step Toward Democracy -- Free Elections, signed on 24 December 1983 by democratic unions, democratic political parties, and the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, whose contents summarize our democratic ideals for:

I. State-party separation

II. Abrogation of laws violating human rights

III. Lifting the state of emergency

IV. Amnesty law

V. Respect for freedom of religion

VI. Freedom of unions

VII. Judicial power autonomy

VIII. Protective law with recourse to unconstitutionality

IX. National dialogue for calling elections (with the participation of the Contadora Group or the OAS).

PCD'S GUIDO SAYS PARTY EXPULSION 'ILLEGAL'

PA031822 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Democratic Conservative Party [PCD] leader Dr Clemente Guido has said that no one can be expelled from the party. Guido, the PCD's organization secretary, described as illegal the plan to expel Dr Enrique Sotelo Borgen, (Sergio Olegario Torres), (Roberto Arana), and himself. Miriam Arguello's [national coordinator of the PCD] followers allegedly met somewhere in Managua yesterday in order to discuss the expulsion of these leaders.

Dr Guido recalled that the party's statutes have no provisions for expelling any one member. Members can only be suspended when and if they have betrayed the homeland or the party. Dr Guido said: They cannot expel anyone, because they are spurious authorities who came out of a convention not authorized by the Supreme Court of Justice.

BORGE SPEAKS AT POLITICAL EVENT IN BLUEFIELDS

PA031329 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 30 Jan 84 p 5

[Excerpts] A political event during which 5 members of the Interior Ministry received their Sandinist membership cards and 26 residents of the Atlantic Coast received their volunteer police credentials was the occasion for Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge to proclaim the granite-like unity of the nation and to emphasize the struggle to bring the Atlantic Coast out of its backwardness.

How very mistaken the imperialists are in thinking that this people will offer them their sovereignty on a silver platter, when they have said that the counterrevolutionaries will find support for an "insurrection" on the coast, Borge said.

"We know we are facing many difficulties and that the enemies of the people are trying to take advantage of them. The enemy is attacking us from the border because of a demented and outrageous decision by the U.S. Government. They still don't realize how very little they know about our people."

They have a plan, Commander Borge added, to occupy Bluefields because they say they will find support here, because they say there are no Sandinist Peoples Militia here, and because there is no Sandinist youth here.

They said they would occupy Managua, and they haven't even reached Jalapa. They believe that after the history of exploitation suffered by the Atlantic Coast they can still count on its support, when all they are offering is a return to that very dark past, Borge added.

Tomas lashed out harshly at local reactionaries when he said that they want to use the electoral process to offer the people the only thing they can offer: to deprive them of the revolution.

When we, the Nicaraguans, at last have hopes for a better life, they want to trick the people into handing their sovereignty on a silver platter to imperialism.

"Land-based piranhas and men!" the interior minister exclaimed. They are refusing the military their vote and they want youths to vote at the age of 20, when thousands of these young people have been fighting to defend the homeland since they were 16 years of age...even children are fighting to defend the homeland.

They want observers at the elections, but they want them "because we all judge others by our own standards." The people of the coast then broke out once again in one of the many ovations that interrupted Tomas as he spoke.

In conclusion, Tomas told them: We will show them that we are capable of defending every inch of our territory and the history is written by men. The clock cannot be turned back just because some wish to return to the past.

CORDOVA RIVAS ADDRESSES AIR RAIDS, ELECTIONS

PA042017 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and leader of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, last night gave a warning to the Nicaraguan people on the "Direct Line" program.

This alert was a response to the most recent violations of Nicaragua's airspace by planes flying in from Honduras. As a result of these attacks, four people were killed and several others wounded.

This act of aggression is a further provocation of the warmongering policy of the United States and the CIA, Dr Cordova Rivas asserted, adding that this must make us Nicaraguans defend our homeland's sovereignty even more firmly. Dr Cordova Rivas asserted that the government has faith and believes in the Contadora Group's efforts, but that the northern empire wants none of this.

Further on he said that all Nicaraguan political parties must voice their stands on the attacks on our country by the Honduran Air Force, backed by the United States. This was in answer to a question during the "Direct Line" program. Cordova Rivas added that it is difficult for any party that does not agree with the Sandinist revolution but is merely playing politics to reach such a consensus, but he stressed that this is their obligation as Nicaraguans.

Later Cordova Rivas asserted that there is an obvious and complete lack of political leaders in the opposition. Dr Cordova Rivas' participation in the program hosted by this station was interesting. Journalists from Radio Mundial, Radio Corporacion, Radio Noticias, EL NUEVO DIARIO, BARRICADA, the Mexican newspaper UNOMASUNO, the international news agency DPA, and other media were also in attendance. Here is an excerpt containing two of the questions asked of Dr Cordova Rivas, both on the phone and by the journalists who were in attendance in this station's transmissions room:

[Begin recording] [Luis Reinosa Martinez] I am an insurance agent. My question: When you say you feel you are the right candidate, it is probably because you have already realized that the members of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board or of the opposition have no candidate to confront the vanguard organization. Is this so?

[Cordova Rivas] Exactly. You win the prize. Undoubtedly there is a shortage of political leaders in the opposition. This shortage is evident and complete. This happens anywhere in the world in the wake of a revolution. However, my performance, as politician, patriot, and Sandinist, is constant. I still maintain that I am the best and most viable opposition candidate for the upcoming election.

[Zaldivar, journalist of the newspaper UNOMASUNO] Can the aggression, the counter-revolutionary activity, and the economic encirclement be alleviated by holding an election?

[Cordova Rivas] Can they be what?

[Zaldivar] Can they be alleviated, softened?

[Cordova Rivas] Softened? Frankly, I believe -- and this is a personal view, because it is hard to separate my position as a leader from my position as a politician -- that the empire will not stop attacking this country, simply because it waged the Sandinist revolution, because it brought about a structural, economic, political, and cultural change in this country. Frankly, I don't think -- and I repeat, this is my personal view -- that there will be a reconciliation with the empire. As for the economic encirclement, they will continue tightening the noose around the Nicaraguan people's necks; it is not around Sandinism that they are tightening the noose but around the Nicaraguan people's necks.

Neither do I believe that the struggle will abate, even in the face of an electoral program, nor will certain opposition groups admit that these elections will be the most honest and free that have ever taken place in the history of America, or that there will be no violence against those who do not agree with Sandinism, that there won't be impositions of any kind. I recommend that Sandinism transmit this idea to its masses, because Sandinism does not need that.

As for the other question, about whether I accept being an opposition candidate because I don't agree with the Sandinist revolution's postulates, I will answer as follows: If a politician has a high concept of politics -- as I do, for I think that a politician has more merit than either a priest or a teacher because the politician must deal with an entire people rather than just segments or parts of the population -- then it is his obligation as a politician and as a Nicaraguan to lead the electoral struggle of the group that does not agree with the Sandinist Front concerning certain issues. Nobody in this country would dare say that an agrarian reform should not be implemented. They might say: The Sandinist Front's agrarian reform has gone beyond the normal course. It is within this context that I am proclaiming myself candidate of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board as an opposition candidate. [end recording]

COMMUNIST PAPER AVANCE TO APPEAR IN MAY

PA031759 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] AVANCE, an organ of the Communist Party of Nicaragua, will begin circulating daily in May, Eli Altamirano, the party's secretary general, has reported.

As for the paper shortage that the country's newspapers suffer, the Communist leader said that AVANCE will reach about 40,000 copies as decided by the newspaper's management. Altamirano said that calculations are being made to request money from the government to buy paper.

AVANCE will appear Monday through Friday. A special weekly edition will appear on Saturdays.

According to Communist Party member estimates, AVANCE will be selling more than 90,000 copies by October, more than LA PRENSA has been selling throughout the country, Altamirano stressed.

CZECHOSLOVAK DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES

PA050407 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 2147 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] A Czechoslovak delegation arrived this morning in Managua, led by First Deputy Foreign Minister Jindrich Rehorek. The delegation is comprised of doctors (Jiry Gracki) and (Jiry Zirovaka).

They were welcomed at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport by Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco and Czechoslovak Ambassador Frantisek Koutecky.

The delegation brought a donation of 16 tons in medicine and surgical equipment, in an act of solidarity from the Czechoslovak people and Government to the Sandinist revolution. Also, they will deliver 36 prefabricated houses next Friday at the port of Corinto.

BULGARIA TO FINANCE MICROWAVE TV PROJECT

PA041311 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] With a $6-million contribution from the Bulgarian Government and an investment of 166 million cordobas, Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services, TELCOR, will develop the Managua-Bluefields and Managua-Puerto Cabezas microwave project, TELCOR and Deputy Development Minister Marne Serrano have reported, adding that as part of the steps taken to start the project, economic and technical feasibility studies have already been made. A technical team from Bulgaria will arrive next month to determine the location of the microwave-transmitting stations.

Serrano gave more details on this project. [Begin recording] [Serrano] The Managua-Bluefields, Managua-Puerto Cabezas microwave project consists of installing a new microwave system that will connect the entire Atlantic zone and integrate it into the national television network.

At present we have television services in Bluefields only. No such services are available in the Puerto Cabezas and Zelaya Norte area. In addition to reinforcing the microwave network already connecting Bluefields, an additional microwave system will be installed that will allow for a new television channel, as well as 960 telephone channels. Similarly, in the second phase, aimed at Puerto Cabezas, there will be a television channel and 980 additional telephone channels with connections to (Las Minas de Rosita), Siuna, and Bonanza.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the cost of this project?

[Serrano] Approximately 166 million cordobas. The project's equipment and materials are financed by the People's Republic of Bulgaria and cost about $6.8 million.

[Reporter] How long will it take to complete this project?

[Serrano] It has been planned to consist of three stages. The first would be between Managua and La Cuchilla; the second between La Cuchilla and Bluefields; and the third between La Cuchilla and Puerto Cabezas. It has been estimated that the project will take 4 years to complete. The first stage, the one toward Bluefields, will be operational in 1985 and the third, the one toward Puerto Cabezas, in 1987.

[Reporter] How will the country benefit from the implementation of this microwave system for the Atlantic sector?

[Serrano] Well, the main factor to be considered is the social and national integration factor, because to incorporate Puerto Cabezas into the television network for the first time in Nicragua's history will allow us to integrate the area of Zelaya Norte, Puerto Cabezas, and (Las Minas) into the Sandinist Television Network. This will also allow all communities of the Atlantic coast to share their way of living, their customs, and their own programs, prepared in Puerto Cabezas, with Managua through television, which is an extremely powerful means of communication in modern times.

As for telephone communication, Puerto Cabezas will have a modern telephone and telex communication system for immediate, automatic communication with any point of the national territory and the world by means of satellites. [end recording]

EPS REPORTS KILLING 43 CONTRAS IN 4 DAYS

PA061611 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Sandinist forces have killed 43 counterrevolutionaries in 4 days of fighting in the Punta Gorda River area in Zelaya Sur.

Commander Roberto Calderon, chief of staff for the 2d military zone, reported the new defeat suffered by the mercenaries during a farewell ceremony for 1,500 Managua militiamen who left yesterday to participate in the coffee harvest in Nicaragua's northern region.

Calderon stressed that the continual failures of the counterrevolutionary offensive in the country's north and south are not just the result of the mobility of the Sandinist People's Armies as Somozists based in Honduras have tried to pretend.

ARDE ISSUES MILITARY REPORT FOR JANUARY

PA031628 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Military report for January 1984 released by the General Command of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces "in the mountains of Nicaragua" on 2 February]

[Text] As a result of military actions during January, a positive, encouraging balance has been achieved in our struggle to free Nicaragua from the foreign conquest that today represses our people and looms like a menace over the rest of Central America.

Our strategy of an ambush war has been successful so far. Of 34 military actions, 21 were ambushes, overwhemingly deafeating the combined Army of Nicaraguans and foreigners comprising the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] guard.

The clashes lasted 28 hours and 15 minutes. Of the 348 enemy casualties reported, we have confirmed 172 dead and 91 wounded. We lost four companeros who died bravely defending the just cause of liberty. Eight combatants were wounded. Our forces captured 15 members of the interventionist Army who, unlike their treatment of our men, are being well treated. Our forces also seized a large quatity of ammunition, arms, and food.

Despite our great limitations, we have maintained our positions and have not allowed the enemy to penetrate the territory under our control, thus demonstrating the effectiveness of the war of ambushes, the high combativeness, the great patriotism, and the loyalty of our troops.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

SANDINIST PLANES REPORTEDLY DOWNED IN ZELAYA

PA031803 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] Clandestine Radio 15 September said yesterday during its regular broadcasts that three Sandinist Air Force planes were shot down by rebels from the Jorge Salazar regional commando group of the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force].

The planes were part of a Sandinist squadron that had tried to evict the insurgents from their positions in central Zelaya on 27 January.

The six-plane Sandinist squadron attacked rebel positions in La Zopilota, 120 km southeast of Jinotega, capital of Jinotega Department.

The FDN fighters responded to the fire, hitting three FAS [Sandinist Air Force] planes. One of the planes fell on El Gamalote and another on Bijagual Hill, while the place where the third plane fell is unknown, the rebel radio station said.

The same source said that rebel forces had applied great pressure on the Sandinist Army in the central Matagalpa Department. Members of the Musun combat group harassed the Sandinist military garrison in Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department, on the evening of 25 January.

One of the rebel commanders who took part in that operation is called Tabano. He was formerly a member of the Sandinist Army and even led an entire EPS [Sandinist People's Army] bettalion at one time.

Meanwhile, FDN spokesmen said that government forces had suffered more than 35 casualties in a series of ambushes in central Zelaya over the past few days.

The clashes took place in Kepi Viejo, Kurri, and in La Boca de Lisague.

Radio 15 September said that the Jorge Salazar regional commando fighters are mostly natives of that region, which facilitates their use of guerrilla warfare techniques.

BRIEFS

INDIAN PARLIAMENT VISITOR -- Daniel Ortega, commander of the revolution and coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has met with Shyam Sundar Mohapatra, member of the Indian Parliament, at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center. Shyam Sundar Mohapatra conveyed to Daniel Ortega his government's and people's solidarity with the Nicaraguan people's revolution. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Feb 84 PA]

DELEGATION TO USSR MEETS SOVIET CULTURE MINISTER

FL070220 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Soviet Culture Minister Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, has received a Cuban culture delegation in Moscow that will participate in Cuban culture days in the USSR, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution.

At the meeting, which was attended by Cuba's ambassador in Moscow, Lionel Soto, questions on the expansion and enhancement of Soviet-Cuban cultural cooperation were discussed. It was also pointed out that Cuban achievements in that field showed the enduring friendship between the peoples of both nations.

During a speech at the meeting, Cuban Vice Minister of Culture Julio Garcia-Espinosa said that the Cuban delegation, composed of 200 artists of various kinds, has at all times felt the kindness and hospitality of the Soviet people, with the exhibitions becoming demonstrations of solidarity.

USSR MINISTER OF TRADE VASHCHENKO ARRIVES

FL061356 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] USSR Minister of Trade Grigoriy Vashchenko arrived in our capital today and was met at the airport by his Cuban counterpart, Manuel Vila Sosa, and USSR Ambassador to Cuba Konstantin Katushev. Minister Vashchenko is heading a delegation which will study the results of cooperation between the two ministries and evaluate the fulfillment of the bilateral work plan for the 1983-84 2-year period.

Both sides will work to define their interests in domestic trade cooperation in 1985-86. These interests include the sending of Cuban specialists to the USSR and Soviet technical advice on economics, organization, and cooperation in scientific research work in Cuba.

DELEGATES ARRIVE FOR WFDY, YOUTH FESTIVAL

FL061228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Representatives of more than 10 countries are now in Cuba to participate in the meeting of the WFDY Executive Committee and the International Preparatory Committee of the 12th World Youth and Students' Festival. Almost 100 youths from the USSR, GDR, Bulgaria, Guinea-Bissau, DPRK, Angola, San Vicente, Barbados, and Guadeloupe have arrived in the last few hours. It is expected that the number of delegates to the youth forum will reach 200. Prior to this meeting, the annual assembly of the WFDY Executive Committee will be held in our capital tomorrow and Wednesday.

Komsomol First Secretary Arrives

FL061208 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] First Secretary of the Komsomol Viktor Maksimovich Mishin has arrived in Cuba, heading the Soviet youth delegation which will participate from 9 to 11 February in the first meeting of the International Preparatory Committee of the 12th World Youth and Students' Festival. Carlos Lage and Conrado Martinez, first and second secretaries, respectively, of the Union of Young Communists, met the delegation at the airport.

MPSP PRESIDENT IN PRAGUE FOR PEACE DISCUSSIONS

FL042043 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Severo Aguirre del Cristo, president of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP], was received in Prague by Tomas Travnicek, vice president of the Czechoslovak National Front.

The Czechoslovak National Front is the organization that oversees political parties, mass organizations, unions, student groups, women's groups, athletes, cooperative members, and many other groups in this brother European country.

The two leaders condemned the fighting in the Middle East, South Africa, and Central America, behind all of which can be seen Washington's participation, either direct or indirect.

Aguirre del Cristo and Travnicek discussed the tasks of the World Peace Movement and its representatives in both countries, and the current international tension created by the nuclear missiles deployed by the United States in Europe.

VILMA ESPIN TO HEAD UN'S WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FL042030 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The National Committee for the UN's World Conference for the Decade of Women: Equality, Development, and Peace [Comite Nacional de la Conferencia Mundial del Decenio de las Naciones Unidas para la Mujer] has been officially established in Havana under the presidency of Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC].

At the official opening ceremony, Vilma Espin thanked visiting Leticia (Sahanih), secretary general of the conference and chief of the UN's Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, [Centro de Desarrollo Social y de Asuntos Humanitarios de las Naciones Unidas], for her presence at the ceremony. Sergio del Valle, minister of public health and Politburo member, was also present.

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. PLANS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PA062009 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Feb 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The recent warmongering report by the so-called Kissinger commission on Central America and the visits to the region by important U.S. political figures confirm that the United States is creating new plans to interfere in the area, plans particularly directed at Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Roving U.S. Ambassador Richard Stone and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz have toured the area during the past 15 days. Neither did anymore than reiterate to the Salvadoran and Honduran authorities Washington's intent to continue its warmongering plans for the area, which include provisions for new quantities of arms and logistic material. They likewise expressed the White House interest in disallowing further advance by FMLN guerrilla forces. Shultz said that the structural changes in the Salvadoran Army constitute the first step in the U.S. strategic plans to achieve this objective, and that with improved guidance of the military operations, the Salvadoran soldiers should be able to control the rebel's renewed strength.

It was recently reported from Washington that the United States will increase its training of the Salvadoran Army through intensive courses in counterinsurgency techniques. The program has already begun by sending 1,000 Salvadoran youths recruited by force in the past weeks to the so-called School of the Americas in Panama. A new, specialized battalion will be created using this contingent, and will be similar to those formed by Salvadoran soldiers in the United States and Honduras. Concerned over the low morale of the Salvadoran Army, the U.S. military advisers insist that the Salvadoran Armed Forces change their combat tactics and introduce a new strategy that could counter a successful advance by FMLN guerrillas.

Using U.S. military aid, the Alvaro Magana regime plans to increase its military force by 20 percent, and to renew its war arsenal. The United States has already eliminated all political-diplomatic cautious regarding El Salvador. It does not want negotiated solutions, it wants military solutions, and it has made its plans based on this viewpoint. This was confirmed by Mario Aguinada, member of the political-diplomatic commission of the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR]. Aguinada said that Washington rejects any political solution to the Salvadoran conflict, and is instead trying to legitimize a fascist regime that would guarantee its interventionist plans in Central America. He added that the United States protects and sponsors each and every arms plan proposed by the Salvadoran Army, while, hoping to impose its hegemonic views, it maneuvers the electoral farce scheduled by the dictatorship for 25 March. The elections, he said, are to be carried out in the framework of a political constitution, which has been prepared by a voracious and exploiting minority.

The Salvadoran revolutionary leader added that the elections are already illegal, because the oligarchy and the Salvadoran Army High Command have taken steps to ensure the victory of the candidate most closely aligned with the U.S. Government's warmongering policies. Therefore, these elections will be yet another show of U.S. force in El Salvador. Finally, Mario Aguinada reiterated that the Salvadoran revolutionary forces do not recognize the electoral farce planned for 25 March, much less the government that will result from it. The FMLN and FDR have reaffirmed many times that they will promote a process of dialogue and negotiation that would ensure the installation of a government of ample national participation.

HONDURAN PLANES LAUNCH TWO ATTACKS ON NICARAGUA

Port Area Hit

FL031521 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] According to a last minute report, six military planes flying from Honduras attacked a Nicaraguan military unit and civilian buildings, killing several people, wounding others, and damaging property.

The attack was carried out by A-37 fighters and "Push and Pull" [in English] planes that entered Nicaragua from Honduras through Potosi, a port on the Gulf of Fonseca in the border region.

Antiaircraft fire responded to this attack, forcing the planes to retreat to Honduras through the Cinco Pinos area in Chinandega.

In its official protest note, the Nicaraguan Government described this Vandalic action as an attack that constitutes a serious escalation in the aggression against Nicaragua, because the attacking planes belong to the Honduran Air Force.

Protest Note Sent

PA031828 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Six Honduran Air Force planes have attacked a Nicaraguan military unit and civilian installations, inflicting several casualties and causing property damage, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has announced.

A protest note sent to the office of the foreign secretary of Honduras states that the aggression was carried out by A-37 fighter bombers and olive green push-and-pull [in English] planes that penetrated as far as the Casita Volcano area, where they attacked a military unit of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and a civilian communications center. The note adds that the aggression was repelled with antiaircraft fire and that the planes returned to Honduras.

As a result of the attack, three soldiers died, three others were wounded, and a communications antenna of the Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Ministry and several fuel storage tanks were destroyed.

The note states that this new action represents a serious escalation in the aggression against Nicaragua. The note points out that an attack on a military unit deep in Nicaraguan territory is an extremely serious action that adds a new dimension to the troubled Central American situation.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry note places responsibility for these actions on those who finance, organize, and allow this chain of aggression and provocation against Nicaragua. It cautions that this attack flagrantly mocks the Contadora Group and is an indisputable denial of the peace statements made internationally by Honduran diplomats.

Second Raid Reported

FL041500 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1208 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Managua -- Planes that entered Nicaragua from Honduras have attacked Nicaraguan territory again. The aggression occurred at a base located in Manzanillo, Chinandega Department, where a member of the Sandinist People's Army was killed and seven were seriously wounded.

It was also learned that five push-and-pull [in English] planes fired approximately 100 rockets on the Nicaraguan base. This attack was repelled by antiaircraft fire.

It was also learned that the Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington and Tegucigalpa have arrived in Managua for consultations with their government on the new situation created in the area following the air raids from Honduras.

This aggression in Chinandega, in the country's northwest, diminishes hopes for peace in Central America, Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega said at the funeral of those killed in the attack.

UN Security Council Meets

PA040613 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] At Nicaragua's urgent request, the UN Security Council has agreed to meet today, Friday, to examine the situation following the air attacks from Honduras. Five combat aircraft from Honduras attacked the area of Manzanillo, Chinandega Department, where less than 24 hours earlier six Honduran Air Force aircraft carried out a similar attack.

Three Nicaraguan soldiers were killed and three were wounded in the first attack. In today's attack, a member of the Nicaraguan Border Guards was killed and seven were wounded. A Voz de Nicaragua correspondent reported that the aircraft from Honduras fired some 100 rockets in this second attack.

Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry sources have reported that the Sandinist Government has recalled Antonio Jarquin and Edwin Zablah, its ambassadors to the United States and Honduras, for consultations. The two diplomats will meet to discuss the situation created by the recent attacks perpetrated by aircraft from Honduras against military and civilian installations deep inside Nicaraguan territory. The two actions, carried out in less than 24 hours, resulted in 4 dead and 10 wounded, some seriously, and in considerable property damage.

Nicaragua Protests at UN

PA041841 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The UN Security Council will continue reviewing on Monday a protest lodged by the Nicaraguan Government in connection with recent attacks on its territory by military planes flying in from Honduras. At a session yesterday afternoon, Nicaragua's Alternate Ambassador Julio Icaza charged at the Council that this new act of aggression demonstrates U.S. determination to lead Central America into a destructive war in order to eliminate the Sandinist revolution.

Icaza explained that the airplanes used to carry out these attacks are similar to those used by the Honduran Air Force, stressing that their flying in fron Honduras is extremely grave and adds a more dangerous and explosive element to the Central American situation.

At the same session, Honduran Ambassador to the United Nations Roberto Herrera Caceres denied the Nicaraguan Government's charges. For his part, U.S. Representative Charles Lichenstein said that his country is neither attacking nor planning to attack the Nicaraguan people, but he reiterated that Washington will continue to aid its allies in the region.

Meanwhile, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, said in Caracas that the possibility of a military confrontation between his country and Honduras is increasing every day, encouraged by the United States. He asserted that Washington does not admit that there might be a political solution to the existing problems.

NICARAGUA SUSPENDS ELECTORAL BILL DISCUSSIONS

PA050242 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has temporarily postponed the electoral process due to recent air raids against Nicaragua from Honduras, and to the Honduran Government's silence concerning the accusations made by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry.

The State Council Electoral Commission has decided not to present the draft electoral bill next Tuesday, the day on which amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua should also have been presented.

An official communique said that the Nicaraguan electoral process cannot be regarded as an issue isolated from other developments in Central America, from the military aggression led by the United States and carried out from Honduras against Nicaragua. The comminique referred to the bombings carried out on Wednesday and Thursday by 10 planes from Honduras, which killed 4 soldiers, wounded 10, and did considerable property damage in Chinandega.

At Nicaragua's request, the UN Security Council last Friday began to analyze the situation created by the air raids into Nicaraguan territory by military planes from Honduras. The analysis will continue on Monday.

The FSLN National Directorate called on the Army and Interior Ministry directors to evaluate the situation created by the aggressive escalation against this Central American country. In a note regarding this, it was reported that in the past 48 hours planes thought to belong to the Honduran Air Force, since they came from Honduras attacked military and civilian installations in Chinandega Department. The note said that the results of this action, which took place deep in Nicaraguan territory, were 4 dead, 10 wounded, and an enormous amount of material damage.

NICARAGUAN ARMY REPORTS ACTION NEAR BLUEFIELDS

PA061811 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] In clashes last week near Bluefields on the Atlantic side of Nicaragua, the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] caused counterrevolutionary groups 43 casualties. This was reported by Commander Roberto Calderon, chief of the general staff of the 2d military zone in Nicaragua, at a ceremony to bid farewell to 500 [as heard] militiamen, who will go to the northern part of the country to harvest coffee. Calderon said that the clashes are continuing in areas around the town of Atlanta.

COTTON PICKERS IN NICARAGUA RECEIVE RAISE

PA032006 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Starting today, Nicaraguan cotton pickers will receive the equivalent of $4 more per quintal picked, which represents a 33-percent increase in their wages. The announcement was made by Labor Minister Virgilio Godoy, who added that the new wage policy will extend to other economic sectors this year.

Jaime Wheelock, minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform and a member of the Sandinist national leadership, pointed out that the cotton pickers will now receive $14 per quintal.

SALVADORAN ARMY, REBELS CLASH IN SEVERAL ACTIONS

'Welfare for Usulutan' Suspended

PA041900 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The Salvadoran regime has suspended the inauguration of the so-called "Welfare for Usulutan" plan due to the intense guerrilla activities in that region where, in addition, the Salvadoran Army is carrying out a new counterinsurgency operation. According to news dispatches, at least 2,000 people have abandoned their homes in Usulutan for fear of being involved in the regime's antiguerrilla operation. Clashes between rebel forces and Salvadoran troops have been reported in Santiago de Maria, Jucuapa, Tecapan, (Gurate), Jucuaran, and other localities in Usulutan Department. In El Jobo, Chalatenango Department, four military men were reportedly killed and another injured in a clash with the guerrillas.

According to reliable sources, official sectors fear that the guerrilla forces' actions might foil a counterinsurgency plan designed by U.S. advisers for Usulutan Department.

It has also been learend that the Salvadoran Air Force has launched indiscriminate bombings against the civilian population in several parts of the country, including Nueva Concepcion, in Chalatenango; Jiboa, in La Paz Department; and the area near Guazapa Hill, in Cuscatlan.

FMLN Occupies Guarnecia

PA052016 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] FMLN forces have occupied Guarnecia, in Santa Ana Department, where they inflicted at least 10 casualties on the Army and seized several weapons, including two 30-cal machine guns. According to international news agencies, guerrilla commandos and Salvadoran troops engaged in heavy fighting in El Triunfo, Usulutan Department. In addition, several soldiers died and others were injured when ambushed in various parts of San Miguel Department..

For its part, the news agency SALPRESS announced that in January 1984, the regime's Air Force launched at least 28 bombings against the civilian population in rural areas of the Departments of Chalatenango, Usulutan, Cuscatlan, San Vicente, Morazan, San Miguel, and La Libertad. According to the source, in 1983 the Salvadoran Air Force bombed those same sites over 200 times, inflicting thousands of casualties among the civilian population.

According to last-minute reports, a dynamite attack left the northern zone of El Salvador without power, while the rebel station Radio Venceremos has termed ridiculous a report that one of its antennas was destroyed in Chinandega, near the Honduran border.

FMLN 'Surprise Operation'

PA061830 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] In a surprise operation, FMLN guerrillas have occupied nine towns and an important section of the northern highway in Chalatenango Department. Radio Farabundo Marti has reported that the rebels defeated the well-trained troops of the Ramon Belloso Battalion, a counterinsurgency group, and said that at the Amayo turnoff the Army forces fled toward the Colima Bridge without fighting. The station says that as a result of this operation the FMLN now controls a little over 90 percent of Chalatenango Department. The nine towns occupied by the guerrillas in their recent actions are La Palma, Tejutla, San Rafael, San Francisco Morazan, Santa Rita, Comalapa, La Reina, Dulce Nombre de Maria, and Concepcion Quezaltepeque.

In San Salvador, Salvadoran bishop Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas said that because of the political violence that prevails in the country, 75 persons had been killed in the past week, and another 18 were arbitrarily arrested. In his regular Sunday homily, the prelate said that because of this, a total of 45,000 persons have been killed in the past 5 years, excluding those who died in combat. Rivera y Damas added that the crisis in El Salvador is caused by social injustice, and not by the guerrillas, as the authorities contend. As long as a political solution of the crisis is not sought, there will be no peace, the prelate said.

HONDURAN INCURSION INTO EL SALVADOR CLAIMED

PA040537 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Radio Venceremos, voice of the FMLN, has charged that helicopter gunships from Honduras flew over the areas of Torola, Perquin, and San Fernando in El Salvador's Morazan Department. The station added that these towns, which are in areas that border Honduras are under Salvadoran rebel control.

The source also said that Honduran Army infantry troops have occupied (?four) strategic points on Babilonia Hill, in northern Morazan Department. Radio Venceremos said that these areas are included in the U.S. imperialists' military strategic plans against El Salvador, and warned that the FMLN guerrillas will respond to the Honduran soldiers' attacks.

STATEMENTS ON U.S. BASES IN HONDURAS CITED

PA061756 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] The Honduran head of state, Roberto Suazo Cordova, has applauded the presence of U.S. soldiers and advisers in Honduras, and said his country is willing to authorize additional joint maneuvers with the U.S. Army because Honduras needs further military aid. Suazo added that official talks have begun regarding the installation of a U.S. military base in Honduras, but that this has not yet been confirmed.

However, U.S. Ambassador to Tegucigalpa John Negroponte refuted Suazo Cordova's statement, while simultaneously admitting that a powerful U.S. base in the Honduran community of Palmerola operates as the general headquarters for the "Big Pine II" joint maneuvers, which are scheduled to end soon. Negroponte also stressed that the presence of U.S. soldiers in Honduras is a response to an invitation from Suazo Cordova's regime to support the Honduran democracy and to aid in the defense of Honduran national sovereignty.

Democratic Senator James Sasser, who traveled to Tegucigalpa last Friday to supervise the Pentagon's military projects in Honduras, said that many of these projects have not been authorized by the U.S. Congress. Sasser accused the Reagan administration of ignoring the U.S. Senate's opinion on the matter.

U.S. HELICOPTER CRASHES IN HONDURAS; 4 DIE

PA040439 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Four U.S. soldiers were killed and six were injured when a U.S. Air Force helicopter crashed in a mountainous region in northeast Honduras. This information was confirmed by the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa and the U.S. Pentagon. They have reported that the aircraft crashed due to bad weather while it was returning to the port of San Lorenzo from the El Aguacate military base, northeast of the Honduran capital.

(Cresencio Arco), director of the U.S. Embassy's information office, stated that the military helicopter was being used to transfer Honduran troops participating in a military exercise in the town of San Esteban, Olancho Department, the same area where the last phase of the U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers, "Big Pine II," are being held. These maneuvers are scheduled to end in the next few days.

SHEARER OFF TO BRUSSELS FOR ACP-EEC MEETING

FL040156 Bridgetown CANA in English 2309 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 3 (CANA) -- Jamaica's Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer was leaving here today for Brussels for joint meetings of the Ministerial Council and the African, Caribbean, and Pacific as well as European Economic Community (ACP-EEC) blocs next week. Shearer will be president of the ACP Council, and thus lead the ACP group in its negotiating meeting with the EEC.

Because of the rotational system, it was the turn of the Caribbean to nominate the ACP president to serve for the next six months, and Caricom ministers elected Shearer at their Council meeting in Guyana last week. The meetings are part of the negotiations launched last October for a successor agreement to the Lome II Convention on cooperation between the ACP and EEC groups. Since October the ambassadors of the 60-odd ACP states have been continuing the negotiations with the EEC Commission in Brussels.

GRENADA

EMMANUEL ANNOUNCES ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER

FL061709 Bridgetown CANA in English 1701 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, Feb 6 (CANA-REUTER) -- The spokesman for foreign affairs in Grenada's interim government, Dr Patrick Emmanuel, said here that elections would be held on the island at the end of November this year. Emmanuel, who took part in last week's inaugural ceremonies for Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, spoke in an interview with EL NACIONAL newspaper. He said special efforts were being made to guarantee free political activity so as to ensure a democratic poll. The elections will be the first in Grenada since 1976 and follow last October's U.S.-led invasion of the island after the Army ousted and killed leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

SIR ERIC GAIRY COMMENTS ON INTERIM GOVERNMENT

FL062112 Bridgetown CANA in English 2043 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 5 (CANA) -- Former Grenada Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy said he told Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon last week that the interim government set up after last October's U.S.-led invasion was unconstitutional. "I told him in principle I disagree with its constitutionality, but I was not going to oppose it in the interest of Grenada," Sir Eric told CANA in an interview.

Sir Eric, who returned from nearly five years of exile two weeks ago, said he should have been given a role in forming a government after the invasion. "When the rescue mission came, he ought have called the last elected Prime Minister, and I should have advised him on the setting up of a body strictly to hold elections," Sir Eric said. He said Sir Paul expressed the view that he had "done nothing wrong." It was Gairy's first meeting with the authorities here -- he also met Wednesday with head of the interim government Nicholas Brathwaite.

"It was a cordial and frank meeting lasting about an hour. I got on quite well with Sir Paul when he was cabinet secretary and governor-general," Sir Eric said. Sir Paul was appointed by head of state Gairy weeks before the ex-prime minister was toppled in a coup in March 1979. His successor, Maurice Bishop, was ousted and killed last October in a violent Army coup which brought the invasion.

Gairy said he raised similar issues with Brathwaite. The interim head promised, he said, to raise with state counsel the question of properties owned by Gairy that were confiscated by Bishop's government. But Sir Eric said the priority, as he saw it, was the medical examination of policemen jailed during Bishop's regime. He said he considered it obligatory that the government provided for this examination. Sir Eric alleged that about 100 policemen had been detained by the People's Revolutionary Government. Political and other detainees of the PRG were released during the invasion. Sir Eric said he had not been specifically promised an investigation of the matter, but saw the "governor-general nod in acquiescence" when he raised the issue of the policemen.

He said he had been told the interim administration intended to stick to its decision to hold elections this year. Asked if his announced intention not to contest the poll should be regarded as his final word on the matter, Sir Eric said "yes, definitely." He said he wanted to stay out of the next government to allow any investigation by an international agency into his period in office and that of his successors.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON ON PROPOSED REGIONAL DEFENSE FORCE

FL031932 Bridgetown CANA in English 1812 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Feb 3 (CANA) -- Thirty-seven St Lucian policemen who leave here tomorrow to join the Caribbean peace-keeping force in Grenada will be integrated into the proposed regional defence force, Prime Minister John Compton has said. Compton said the force, which he said will be set up next year, would operate under one command. It would move into any island "which showed signs of invasion from internal subversion or outside intruders." The St Lucia prime minister spoke at a passing-out ceremony for the 37 policemen, all members of the special services unit of the police force that has just completed an intensive period of military training under U.S. Army instructors. The training is part of a military aid package, including weapons and equipment. that President Reagan approved for seven Caribbean nations which took part in last October's multi-national invasion of Grenada. A force of about 750 from the U.S. and the seven nations are on peace-keeping duties on the 133-square mile state.

Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams said that five Eastern Caribbean states that two years signed a security treaty were considering the feasibility of establishing a full regional defence force. The present security arrangement, involving Barbados, Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, St Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines, is currently a coastguard-type operation, but governments had decided that "an element of land forces should be included in the system," Adams said. They had also decided to extend the treaty to newly-independent St Kitts/Nevis and Grenada after the island holds general elections.

The need for security is great, Compton said, to warn intruders who "wanted to use, subvert, and invade our islands through internal elements to destroy us and place us in the middle of the ideological conflicts of East and West." With reference to October's political upheaval in Grenada, Compton said St Lucia should not be indifferent, as the situation in the neighbouring state had threatened the peace and security of everyone in the region. The invasion followed a violent military coup in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was killed.

Compton said the Caribbean by its "swift action taken against misdeeds in Grenada had proclaimed to the world that the only means of assuming power in the islands was through the ballot box." An interim government, installed after the invasion, has promised to hold elections later this year.

MINISTER CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. TROOPS IN GRENADA

FL061728 Bridgetown CANA in English 1707 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 4 (CANA) -- Guyana has again expressed concern at the presence of American troops in Grenada. Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Carl Greenridge told newsmen that Guyana's position was outlined at last weekend's 24th Meeting of the Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) Council of Ministers in Georgetown. He described the discussions on the invasion of Grenada and the grave problems resulting as "frank but conciliatory." Guyana condemned the invasion which was supported with troops and policemen from Barbados, Jamaica, and five nations of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

Greenridge said Deputy Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda Lester Bird tried to capture the mood of reconciliation at the November 15 New Delhi Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference. Greenridge said the summit looked forward to the interim administration in St George's functioning free of external interference, pressure, or presence of foreign military forces.

He said the St Vincent delegation attempted to rationalise the involvement of certain Caribbean governments in the "Grenadian episode," and, as a response, Guyana submitted a statement to the meeting, reaffirming the spirit of the New Delhi Declaration. Greenridge said the statement "expressed Guyana's deep concern about the presence of United States troops in the island and made it clear that the situation would be monitored until a final decision is taken about the question of recognition." Guyana had said it would refuse to recognise any "puppet" regime installed in Grenada after the invasion. It unsuccessfully challenged the legitimacy of the Grenada delegation at the Council meeting. A joint U.S.-Caribbean force is in Grenada on peace-keeping duties.

WPA SCORES CALL FOR CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FORCE

FL061723 Bridgetown CANA in English 1305 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 4 (CANA) -- The call by Prime Minister Tom Adams of Barbados for a regional defence force to combat mercenary invasion and domestic revolution has all the potential of a major threat to peace and international order, the small leftist Working Peoples Alliance (WPA) said here. While sharing Adam's opposition to mercenary activity in the Commonwealth Caribbean, the WPA said it does not see the proposed force as the answer. It urged Adams to set up in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) a watchdog committee to investigate electoral laws and practices through the region. "Such an investigation and the publication of the findings will advance democracy, particularly in the case of Guyana," the WPA said. It said no regional defence force or plans for military intervention can hope to restore respect for democratic behaviour and institutions.

The WPA charged that recent elections in Guyana "have been staged on the basis of seriously mangled legislation and fraudulent electoral practices which are quite contrary to the spirit of the independence pact."

With regard to domestic revolution, the WPA said the proposal has important flaws and gaps. "Firstly, the call cancels the fundamental right of people, oppressed and deprived of the means to choose their government, who have the will and capacity to revolt; secondly, it amounts to support for dictatorship when a leader condemns domestic revolution without even an examination of the electoral machinery and legislation," the WPA said.